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The Chat

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The Ornithological Society of the Carolinas

THE CHAT

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Vol. 66 WINTER 2002 No. 1

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Editor

Bob Wood, 2421 Owl Circle
West Columbia, SC 29169
bobwood@ix.netcom.com

General Field Notes

North Carolina
Will Cook

South Carolina
Dennis M. Forsythe

Briefs for the Files ..... Ricky Davis

Associate Editor ..... Andrea Ceselski

Editor Emeritus ..... Eloise Potter

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Cover (Northern Flicker Eggs) by Bill Duyck, Asheville, NC

2001 Report of the North Carolina Bird Records Committee

Harry E. LeGrand, Jr., Chairman
Susan Campbell
Samuel Cooper
Richard J. Davis
Eric V. Dean
Roger D. McNeill
Simon R. B. Thompson

This report enumerates the decisions of the Carolina Bird Club's North Carolina Bird Records Committee during 2001. Committee voting information is referenced in parentheses (*i.e.*, year report received, reference number).

ACCEPTED AS VALID

The reported identification is judged to be accurate, and the bird is judged to be of wild origin. Photographs and/or written descriptions of all accepted records have been deposited in the N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences.

Yellow-nosed Albatross (*Thalassarche chlororhynchos*) (01-17). One was seen by several dozen birders on a pelagic trip a few miles off Salvo, Dare County, on 5 February 2000. The Committee accepted a description provided by Michael Tove (Chat, in press) and photos provided by Brian Patteson. This is the first accepted record for the state, and acceptance of the photos places the species directly onto the Official List. There are other reports that have not been accepted by the Committee.

Bermuda Petrel (*Pterodroma cahow*) (01-12). One was seen in the Gulf Stream out of Oregon Inlet on 27 May 2001. The Committee accepted details provided by George Armistead. The species is already on the Official List. This is the fourth accepted record, and other reports are available to the Committee for a vote.

White-winged Scoter (*Melanitta fusca*) (01-02). One was seen by Wayne Forsythe in Buncombe County in March 2001. The species is already on the Official List, but the species is very rare away from the coast. This is the first record reviewed and accepted by the Committee for the mountain region.

White-tailed Kite (*Elanus leucurus*) (01-10). One bird was observed by Skip and Linda Morgan near Coinjock on mainland Currituck County on 16 May 2001. The Committee accepted a description provided by Skip Morgan. The species is already on the Official List. This is the fourth accepted record for the state. Several additional reports have not been accepted.

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Rough-legged Hawk (*Buteo lagopus*) (01-03). One was seen and photographed in Henderson County in March 2001 by Wayne Forsythe. The species is already on the Official List, but there are very few records from the mountains. This is the first such report from that region reviewed and accepted by the Committee.

Wilson's Phalarope (*Phalaropus tricolor*) (01-16). One was videotaped in Henderson County on 14 May 2001 by Wayne Forsythe. The species is on the Official List, with many records. However, this is the first record voted on and accepted for the mountain region, where few if any records exist.

Common Murre (*Uria aalge*) (01-01). One was seen in the surf at Cape Hatteras Point, Dare County, on 3-4 February 2001 by John Dole and other birders. The Committee accepted a description provided by Dole and a photograph taken by Patricia Tyndall. This is the first record for the state, and acceptance of the written material and the photograph places the species directly onto the Official List.

Lesser Nighthawk (*Chordeiles acutipennis*) (01-05). A dead individual was found in Carteret County in December 1998 by John Fussell (Lee *et al.* 2001). The Committee accepted a photo of the specimen taken by Will Cook plus supporting information (but not a written description) from the N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences. This is the first state record, and the presence of a specimen and recognizable photos places the species directly onto the Official List.

Chuck-will's-widow (*Caprimulgus carolinensis*) (01-07). A torpid individual was captured, photographed, and released at Buxton in Dare County on 27 December 2000. The Committee accepted photos taken by Audrey Whitlock and Diane Hardy and a description provided by Paul Sykes. There have been several previous winter season reports from the coastal region, but this is the first winter report to be voted on and accepted by the Committee. The species is already on the Official List.

Green-breasted Mango (*Anthracothorax prevostii*) (01-26). An immature was present at a feeder in rural Cabarrus County in November 2000. The bird was banded by Susan Campbell. The Committee accepted written details from Harry LeGrand and photos from Phil Kelly. This is the first state record, and acceptance of the photos places the species directly onto the Official List.

Broad-billed Hummingbird (*Cynanthus latirostris*) (01-18). An immature male was present at a feeder at the home of Inga Parker in eastern Craven County for about a week in October 2001. The Committee accepted photos taken by Steve Shultz and Wayne Irvin and a description provided by Harry

LeGrand. This is the first state record, and acceptance of the photos places the species directly onto the Official List.

Black-chinned Hummingbird (*Archilochus alexandri*) (01-21). An immature male was present at a feeder in Sunset Beach in Brunswick County over the winter of 2000-2001. The Committee accepted photos taken by Randy Emmitt and a description provided by Mary McDavit. This is the second accepted record for the state. As the first was a sight record, acceptance of the photos for Record 01-21 elevates the species from the Provisional List to the Official List.

Black-chinned Hummingbird (01-22). A female (presumably) was observed at a feeder in Raleigh in February 1997 by Susan Campbell and others. The Committee accepted details provided by Campbell and by John Gerwin. However, the Committee felt that photos of the bird in flight and at the feeder were not conclusive, as the Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*A. colubris*) is extremely similar in female plumage. Thus, the Committee did not accept the photographic documentation. Nonetheless, this becomes the third accepted record of the species for the state, the others being at coastal sites.

Black-chinned Hummingbird (01-23). A female was banded and photographed in the hand by Susan Campbell at the feeders of Paulette Biles near Hampstead in Pender County during the winter of 1999-2000. The Committee accepted details submitted by Campbell and photos taken by Biles. This is the fourth accepted record of the species for the state.

Calliope Hummingbird (*Stellula calliope*) (01-19). An immature male was present at a feeder in Brevard from late October to mid-November 2000. The Committee accepted a written description and photos provided by Bill Lovejoy. The species is already on the Official List, with the two previous records being of an immature male and a female photographed at feeders near the coast.

Broad-tailed Hummingbird (*Selasphorus platycercus*) (01-20). An immature male visited the feeder of Monte Tickle near Gibsonville in Guilford County from November 2001 into early 2002. It was seen by a large number of birders and was banded and photographed by Susan Campbell. The Committee accepted the description and photos provided by Campbell and another photo provided by Wayne Irvin. This is a first state record, and acceptance of the photos places the species directly onto the Official List.

Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*) (01-04). One was found by Mark Simpson and Sam Moore and later seen by many other birders near Goldsboro in November and December 2000. The Committee accepted the description by Jeff Pippen and photos submitted by Eric Dean. This is the third accepted record for the state, with the others being from the Outer Banks. As

one of the two previous birds was photographed, the species is already on the Official List. This is the first inland record.

Fork-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus savana*) (01-24). One was seen by Les Todd, John Wright, and others at Pea Island on 4 November 2001. The Committee accepted photos taken by Eric Dean at neighboring Bodie Island. The species is already on the Official List, based on a previous photograph. This is the second state record. Both are coastal records, but this is the first for the fall season.

Warbling Vireo (*Vireo gilvus*) (01-06)One was observed from December 2000 to January 2001 at Roanoke Island by Jeff Lewis and others. The Committee accepted a description provided by Lewis. The species is already on the Official List, with numerous records, but this is the first record for the winter season.

Cave Swallow (*Petrochelidon fulva*) (01-14). Lee *et al.* (2001) detail the presence of the first state specimen, an adult male received by the N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences from the Outer Banks Wildlife Shelter on 2 December 1999. The bird had been found earlier at Fort Macon State Park and turned in to the wildlife shelter. The Committee accepted photos of the specimen taken by Will Cook. The species is already on the Official List, and this is the sixth accepted record.

Sprague's Pipit (*Anthus spragueii*) (01-25). One found by John Wright at Cape Hatteras Point on 28 October 2001 was seen by a large number of birders in early November. The Committee accepted details provided by Wright and photos taken by Brian Patteson. This is the second accepted record, and acceptance of the photos elevates the species from the Provisional List to the Official List. The Committee has not accepted several other reports, and one other report is under review.

Townsend's Warbler (*Dendroica townsendi*) (01-15). Chad Leedy salvaged a specimen from a boat off the coast on 20 September 1999 (Lee *et al.* 2001). The Committee accepted photos by Will Cook of the specimen, which now resides at the N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences. The species is already on the Official List, documented by a photo, and this 1999 record is the first specimen and second accepted record for the state.

Chestnut-collared Longspur (*Calcarius ornatus*) (01-11). One female, or male still in basic plumage, was seen and heard calling at the southeastern corner of Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Haywood County, in mid-May 2001. The Committee accepted the description provided by Chuck Hunter. The species is already on the Official List, with photos accepted. This becomes the second state record and the first from the mountain region.

UNACCEPTED SIGHTING

The bird is judged to be a species other than that reported, or the bird is insufficiently documented to identification of the species reported.

Spotted Redshank (*Tringa erythropus*) (01-09). One was reported from Pea Island in August 2000. The single observer described several field marks suggestive of this species, but other key marks, such as the color of the back/rump and the color of the bill, were not seen or described. Thus, the Committee could not be convinced that a Greater Yellowlegs (*T. melanoleuca*) or a Lesser Yellowlegs (*T. flavipes*) was not seen instead. The species is already on the Official List, with one accepted record that was accompanied by photographs.

Acadian Flycatcher (*Empidonax virescens*) (01-09). One was reported on the Outer Banks in December 2000. The written report was quite detailed, but the single observer heard no call notes. Though the details are suggestive of Acadian, there was concern by the Committee that a silent Empidonax flycatcher, or at least a silent Acadian, cannot be conclusively identified. As no Empidonax species normally winters in the eastern United States, the identifications, especially of silent birds, must be treated with great caution. The species is on the Official List, as it is a common breeding bird in the state, but no winter reports for the state have been accepted.

UNACCEPTED ORIGIN

The reported identification is judged to be accurate, but the origin of the bird is uncertain (and thus might not be of natural origin).

Ringed Turtle-Dove (*Streptopelia risoria*) (01-13). A specimen from Manteo in May 1999 is now in the N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences. Lee *et al.* (2001) detail the record and other reports of this species from North Carolina. The Committee judges the species to be correctly identified but does not consider the above record to be of natural origin. This species is not on the state's Official or Provisional lists, as there are no long-established breeding populations anywhere near North Carolina.

Discussion

The review of reports by the North Carolina Bird Records Committee for 2001 resulted in adding eight species to the North Carolina Official List. Black-chinned Hummingbird and Sprague's Pipit have been elevated from the Provisional List; and Yellow-nosed Albatross, Common Murre, Lesser Nighthawk, Green-breasted Mango, Broad-billed Hummingbird, and Broad-tailed Hummingbird have been directly added to the Official List. The Provisional List has lost the first two species mentioned above. The current

Official List is 435 species, and the Provisional List is now 12 species, for a total of 447 species on the state's Accepted List.

Potential new-to-the-list species that the Committee expects to review in 2002 are Black-tailed Gull and Pacific-slope Flycatcher, and the Committee also hopes to resolve the status of Bicknell's Thrush in the upcoming year.

Acknowledgments

In addition to the many people named above who provided written material and photographs for the Committee to review, we thank Russ Tyndall for placing a number of the photographs on the Carolina Bird Club's website for Committee review.

Literature Cited

Lee, D S, J A Gerwin, and R B Browning. 2001. Specimen documentation of unusual, and previously unrecorded birds from North Carolina. J. Elisha Mitchell Sci. Soc. 117 (2):123-127.

Tove, M H, and J B Patteson. First record of Yellow-nosed Albatross from North Carolina. Chat, in press.

CAROLINABIRDS

Carolinabirds is an Internet e-mail discussion group about birds and birding in the Carolinas. Subscribers frequently post sightings to it similar to those found in Briefs for the Files, but unusual behavior receives more attention. Subscriptions are free. To subscribe, address an e-mail message to <majordomo@duke.edu>. Don't fill in the subject line. As your message, simply put, "subscribe carolinabirds" (without the quotes). You will receive a confirmation and more information shortly. Submissions for Briefs for the Files should be sent directly to Ricky Davis.

Spring 2001 North American Migration Count in South Carolina

Donna Slyce Bailey
176 Raven's Place
Winnsboro, SC 29180

Introduction

The Spring 2001 North American Migration Count was held on May 12, 2001. The reporters for this North American Migration Count tallied 18,655 individuals in 184 species. 16 counties of the state were covered by 165 observers divided into 123 parties. For the first time in at least the last six years, some NAMC reporters encountered rain on count day, ranging from brief afternoon showers to larger accumulations of rain in at least one county. Comparing the Spring 2000 and the Spring 2001 Counts, both counts had the same number of counties reporting and found the same number of species of warbler. 25 species of warbler were found in both 2000 and 2001. The warbler species found in both years differs slightly, however. In 2000 Palm Warbler and Northern Waterthrush were found, in contrast to 2001 when Bay-breasted Warbler and Wilson's Warbler were found.

Also interesting are comparisons of the number of individuals of warbler species that are widespread in South Carolina.

	2000	2001	% Change
Northern Parula	230	309	34.3
Yellow-throated Warbler	129	132	2.3
Pine Warbler	292	326	11.6
Prairie Warbler	49	65	32.7
Common Yellowthroat	219	180	-17.8

Due to the lack of scientific rigor in the collection of data for NAMC (areas surveyed can change yearly, and participants can change yearly), the conclusions to be drawn from these numbers are limited. This is especially true for species increasing in the SC NAMC when larger surveys show their numbers to be declining. A good example is Prairie Warbler. Something of a habitat specialist, it generally breeds only in clearcuts in the early stages of regeneration ("successional habitat"). About all that can be concluded from the increase in the numbers of Prairie Warbler is that more early successional habitats were counted in 2001 than in 2000. Perhaps there is more early

successional habitat to be counted as logging continues apace across the state. Perhaps there are more breeding Prairie Warblers in South Carolina due to greater amounts of habitat. A more rigorous study than can be provided by NAMC is needed.

Among the widespread species reported from every county were: Turkey Vulture, Mourning Dove, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird, Blue Jay, Carolina Chickadee, Northern Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, White-eyed Vireo, Northern Cardinal and Red-winged Blackbird. Red-winged Blackbird was the most numerous of the widespread species, followed by Mourning Dove.

Among the highlights of the Spring 2001 North American Migration Count are an American Bittern found in Jasper County; a lingering Northern Harrier found in Beaufort County; and two White-crowned Sparrows found in Oconee County. 26 species were "exclusives," found only in one county. The exclusives are distributed as follows:

Beaufort: 1
Charleston: 3
Cherokee: 2
Dorchester: 1
Georgetown: 3
Jasper: 3
Oconee: 7
Richland: 1
Spartanburg: 5

County Summaries

Aiken County (AIKE): 107 species, 2717 individuals. Reported temperatures: 65° F to 80° F.
Start Time: 5:00 AM
Stop Time: 7:00 PM
Coordinator: Anne Waters
1621 Apple Valley Drive
Augusta, GA 30906
706/793-2788
Participants: Olen Blackmon, Adrienne DeBiase, Gene Howard, Christine Huzzella, Sandra Johnson, James Keener, Mark Komoroski, Richard Lux, Betsy Ristroph, Anne Waters, Vernon Waters, Morgan Whaley, Candy Zaffin, Calvin Zippler

Aiken County had the distinction of reporting the highest numbers of two of South Carolina's non-waterfowl game birds. Aiken reported 25 of the 40 total Northern Bobwhite found and half of all the Wild Turkey found in South Carolina, tallying 11 of the 22 total Wild Turkeys found for this NAMC.

Beaufort County (BEAU): 58 species, 640 individuals. Reported temperatures: 63° F to 84° F.
Start Time: 7:30 AM
Stop Time: 1:00 PM
Coordinator: Amy Oocha
1000 Business Center Drive, Parkway Business Center, Ste 10
Savannah, GA 31405
912/652-4415 ext. 103
Participants: Paige Mulholland

In addition to the lingering Northern Harrier mentioned earlier, Beaufort County reported nice numbers of Whimbrel and 2 Veeries, a nice migrant to find.

Charleston County (CHAR): 133 species, 6546 individuals. Reported temperatures: 60° F to 85° F.
Start Time: 4:00 AM
Stop Time: 10:00 PM
Coordinator: Perry Nugent
2260 Dallerton Circle
Charleston, SC 29414
843/556-3841
Participants: Mrs. M. A. Aldenderfer, Dr. Paul H. Aldenderfer, Ed Conradi, Sandra Conradi, Allen Russell, Sue Ann Russell, Linda Zinnikas, Dot Glover, Marion Chamberlin, Peggy Fulmer, Joan Hylander, Marcia Hider, Tori Langen, Ann Kent, Joe Stevenot, Betty Zimmerman

Charleston's exclusives for this count were American Oystercatcher, Red Knot, and the state's one and only Red-cockaded Woodpecker.

Cherokee County (CHER): 71 species, 1274 individuals. Reported temperatures: 61° F to 82° F.
Start Time: 7:00 AM
Stop Time: 10:00 PM
Coordinator: Lyle Campbell
126 Greengate Lane
Spartanburg, SC 29307
864/585-1228
Participants: Travis Childers, Claude Cobb, Ken Garrett, Melissa Hammett, Carolyn Haynes, J. B. Hines, Karla Lavender, Maxie Nix, Tina Pearsall, Alan Rose, Les Young

Cherokee County's exclusives were a pair of warbler species, Chestnut-sided Warbler and Wilson's Warbler. Wilson's Warbler is an excellent migrant to find, especially during spring migration.

Chester County (CHES): 82 species, 1239 individuals. Reported temperatures: 52° F to 86° F.
Start Time: 8:00 AM
Stop Time: 4:30 PM
Coordinator: Gail B. Ice
2356 Arabian Circle
York, SC 29445
803/684-3242
Participants: Gail B. Ice

Chester County reported impressive numbers of Cliff Swallows, as well as a nice selection of sparrows. Among Chester County's sparrows were Savannah Sparrow and Grasshopper Sparrow.

Colleton County (COLL): 111 species, 2565 individuals. Reported temperatures: 52° F to 86°F.
Start Time: 7:45 AM
Stop Time: 7:45 PM
Coordinator: Sharon Brown
P. O. Box 327
Adams Run, SC 29426
843/889-8299
Participants: Mrs. M. A. Aldenderfer, Mike Lewis

Among the species of interest in Colleton County were two species uncommon on the southern South Carolina coast in spring, Broad-winged Hawk and Sharp-shinned Hawk.

Fairfield County (FAIR): 84 species, 951 individuals. Reported temperatures: 56° F to 86° F.
Start Time: 5:30 AM
Stop Time: 6:00 PM
Coordinator: Donna Slyce Bailey
176 Raven's Place
Winnsboro, SC 29180
803/635-7032
Participants: Donna Slyce Bailey

Worm-eating Warbler, whose breeding distribution is spotty through the Piedmont, was a nice find in Fairfield County.

Georgetown County (GEOR): 99 species, 1028 individuals. Temperatures not reported.
Start Time: NR
Stop Time: NR
Coordinator: Jack Peachey
103 Walnut Circle
Conway, SC 29520
843/347-5810
Participants: Wendy Allen, Michael Doyle, Charles Heacock, Margaret Pacileo

Exclusive to Georgetown County were Wilson's Plover, Purple Sandpiper, and Bay-breasted Warbler, a nice find anywhere in the state but especially on the coast.

Hampton County (HAMP): 68 species, 955 individuals. Reported temperatures: 62° F to 84° F.
Start Time: 6:10 AM
Stop Time: 5:45 PM
Coordinator: Carroll Richard
P.O. Box 893
Hampton, SC 29924
803/943-4661
Participants: David Breland, Karen Breland

20 Bald Eagles were reported from Hampton County, an excellent and encouraging number.

Jasper County (JASP): 100 species, 2706 individuals. Reported temperatures: 55° F to 88° F.
Start Time: 5:00 AM
Stop Time: 7:00 PM
Coordinator: Patricia E. Metz
1000 Business Center Drive, Parkway Business Center, Suite 10
Savannah, GA 31405
912/652-4415 ext. 103
Participants: Scott Berryman, Vic Carpenter, Les Davenport, Nancy Drake, Bill Hooke, Jack Hooke, Gail Hooke, Sergie Kovaler, Barry Lowes, Michael Mumford, Jayne Reicherr, Lauree San Juan, Gweywynn Smith, Holly Smith, Craig Ten Brink, Lydia Thompson

Species exclusive to Jasper for this count were the previously mentioned American Bittern, American Avocet, and Seaside Sparrow. American Avocet is always an excellent find.

Lexington County (LEXI): 77 species, 1008 individuals. Reported temperatures: 54° F to 83° F.
Start Time: 6:30 AM
Stop Time: 12:00 PM
Coordinator: Molly Bonnell
202 Cannon Trail Road
Lexington, SC 29072
803/359-6280
Participants: Andrea Ceselski, Jerry Griggs

Lexington County reported several nice migrant species, including Blackpoll Warbler and Scarlet Tanager. Lexington County also reported multiple Eurasian Collared Doves, a species that continues to move north and west into the interior of the state.

Oconee County (OCON): 117species, 2008 individuals. Reported temperatures: 52° F to 86° F.
Start Time: 5:30 AM
Stop Time: 7:00 PM
Coordinator: Steve Wagner
316 E. Creswell
Greenwood, SC 29646
864/223-0416
Participants: Don Cox, Steve Cox, Vicki Cox, Larry Lecroy, Ned Shuler, Teddy Shuler

Oconee County came in well ahead of other counties in number of exclusives: Common Loon, Peregrine Falcon, Ruffed Grouse, Common Raven, Black-throated Green Warbler, the White-crowned Sparrow, and Dark-eyed Junco. Ruffed Grouse and Common Raven can be difficult to find in South Carolina, and it is always nice to be able to tally them here.

Richland County (RICH): 75 species, 711 individuals. Temperatures not reported.
Start Time: 5:00 AM
Stop Time: 1:00 PM
Coordinator: Robin Carter
4165 E. Buchanan Drive
Columbia, SC 29206
803/788-8820
Participants: Caroline Eastman

The species exclusive to Richland County was a Cape May Warbler, always a nice migrant to find.

Spartanburg County (SPAR): 105 species, 3475 individuals. Reported temperatures 61° F to 82° F.
Start Time: NR
Stop Time: NR
Coordinator: Lyle Campbell
126 Greengate Lane
Spartanburg, SC 29307
864/585-1228
Participants: Frankie Altman, Beth Bartel, Tim Brown, Sarah Campbell, Marion Clark, Dan Codispoti, Teressa Coleman, Tom Moore Craig, Linda Deahl, Shane East, Glenn Englehardt, Roy Fowler, Pat Fowler, Dennis Funk, Ron Gahagan, Onoosh Gahagan, Robin Gilman, Chip Green, John Green, Alan Henderson, Betty Howard, Doug Hubbell, Marylin Hubbell, Jessie Ivy, Marvin Jackson, Connie Jenne, Ron Jenne, Jack Jennings, Joel Jones, Herb Kay, Tammy King, Hannah Long, Kim Long, Kinsey Long, Lance Long, Megan Long, Micah Long, Micky Marotte, Mary Ann Myers, Angela Miller, Mike Miller, Jim Miller, Margaret Miller, Bill Moody, Gill Newberry, Ken Pearson, Lisa Pearson, Bob Powell, Sandra Powell, Nora Moore, Terry Moore, Ingrid Norris, Doug Rayner, Richard Ridelhuber, Bob Scott, Ginny Scott, Walton Scott, Mac Shealy, Tina Taylor, Dick Thorpe, Lois Thorpe, Gerald Thurmond, Brent Thomas, Dan Wooten, Robert Wooten, Nancy Wooten

Spartanburg's five exclusives were four winter residents and one migrant species. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, a very late Hermit Thrush, Yellow-rumped Warbler, and Purple Finch are species normally present in South Carolina during winter but which were still here in small numbers for the count. Magnolia Warbler was the migrant species counted exclusively by Spartanburg County.

Williamsburg County (WILL): 58 species, 195 individuals. Reported temperatures: 62° F to 78° F.
Start Time: 7:00 AM
Stop Time: 9:00 PM
Coordinator: John Snow
85 Radio Road
Hemingway, SC 29554
843/558-5430
Participants: Paula Snow, George Sutton

Williamsburg County reported a Hooded Merganser, always a nice find, and lingering White-throated Sparrows, another species normally found in South Carolina in winter. It stayed around long enough to show up on a spring count.

North American Migration Count
South Carolina

12 May 2001	AIKE	BEAU	CHAR	CHER	CHES	COLL	DORC	FAIR	GEOR	HAMP	JASP	LEXI	OCON	RICH	SPAR	WILL	TOTAL Individuals	# Counties Reporting Species
Common Loon													1				1	1
Pied-billed Grebe			1												1		2	2
Brown Pelican			66			9			28		1						104	4
Double-crested Cormorant	2	1	21	2	23	9	25	49	44		99	1	5		12		293	13
Anhinga	6	1	47			6	5			2	38						105	7
American Bittern											1						1	1
Least Bittern			1						1		2						4	3
Great Blue Heron	14	2	25	1		13	5		7	14	3	3	5	3	19	1	115	14
Great Egret	18	25	236			18	23	8	7	5	12				1		353	10
Snowy Egret		16	119			28	19		9	5	20						216	7
Little Blue Heron	1	2	76			4	3	1	4	46	4						141	9
Tricolored Heron		1	31			14	3		3	3	13						68	7
Cattle Egret	391	1	4			6	28			28	17					6	481	8
Green Heron	4	4	49	3		6	4	2	1	3	2		8	1	10		97	13
Black-crowned Night-Heron		1	26						1		6						34	4
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron			9				5				31						45	3
White Ibis		14	10			14	16			260	17						331	6
Glossy Ibis			13			2	1				45						61	4
Wood Stork		2	22				8			6							38	4
Canada Goose	89		16	28	8	3	6	8				18	63	1	210	2	452	12
Wood Duck	13		30	5	10	16	10	4		12	1	6	5	1	13	4	130	14
Mottled Duck			8			29					6						43	3
Mallard	11			2	6	2	18	3		5	11	3	9		85		155	11
Hooded Merganser			1				1									1	3	3
Black Vulture	15		45	15	10	25	80	28	1	13	5		16	2	8	2	265	14
Turkey Vulture	7	1	66	24	6	17	32	15	9	51	6	10	42	4	35	3	328	16
Osprey		9	17			2	2	4	3		3			1	1		42	9

12 May 2001	AIKE	BEAU	CHAR	CHER	CHES	COLL	DORC	FAIR	GEOR	HAMP	JASP	LEXI	OCON	RICH	SPAR	WILL	TOTAL Individuals	# Counties Reporting Species
Swallow-tailed Kite									5		1						6	2
Mississippi Kite	12		11			1	5		3	1	11			1			45	8
Bald Eagle	2		2		4		2			20			1				31	6
Northern Harrier		1															1	1
Sharp-shinned Hawk						1									2		3	2
Cooper's Hawk				2											3		5	2
Red-shouldered Hawk	6		4	1	3		5	2				3	11	1	9	1	46	11
Broad-winged Hawk						1		2					1				4	3
Red-tailed Hawk	6		7	5	2	2	2	2		1	1	2	4	5	4	2	45	14
Peregrine Falcon													1				1	1
Ruffed Grouse													1				1	1
Wild Turkey	11		2			1	3	2					3		18	10	50	8
Northern Bobwhite	25		2	14		4	10		1	4	2	3	7		14	3	89	12
Clapper Rail			30			1			2		18						51	4
King Rail			1								2						3	2
Purple Gallinule										3	1						4	2
Common Moorhen		17	17			11			3	27	25						100	6
American Coot			11						2		2						15	3
Black-bellied Plover			8			13			17		3						41	4
Wilson's Plover									6								6	1
Semipalmated Plover	3		38			114			67		18						240	5
Killdeer	12		11	11	3	1	2			2	12	1	9	2	11		77	12
American Oystercatcher			15														15	1
Black-necked Stilt			21			8			3		40						72	4
American Avocet											30						30	1
Greater Yellowlegs			19			12			1		6		1				39	5
Lesser Yellowlegs	2					18					2		6				28	4
Solitary Sandpiper	6		11	1	1								6		10		35	6
Willet		4	15			1			12		19						51	5
Spotted Sandpiper	3		6	5		1	1		3		1	1	14		6	2	43	11

12 May 2001	AIKE	BEAU	CHAR	CHER	CHES	COLL	DORC	FAIR	GEOR	HAMP	JASP	LEXI	OCON	RICH	SPAR	WILL	TOTAL Individuals	# Counties Reporting Species
Whimbrel		21	15						16								52	3
Ruddy Turnstone			18			7			5								30	3
Red Knot			522														522	1
Sanderling			25			5					8						38	3
Semipalmated Sandpiper	1		36			160			36		880				1		1114	6
Western Sandpiper			26						2								28	2
Least Sandpiper	12		58			50			15		115		6		6		262	7
peep sp.			151			330			116		40						637	4
Pectoral Sandpiper	1		2			20			1	1							25	5
Purple Sandpiper									1								1	1
Dunlin			8			25			29		40						102	4
Short-billed Dowitcher			6						30								36	2
dowitcher sp.											16						16	1
Laughing Gull			389			136	145		3		6						679	5
Ring-billed Gull			6			14	32		56		1		32				141	6
Herring Gull			2			4	1		1		1						9	5
Gull-billed Tern			7			1					85						93	3
Caspian Tern			16			1											17	2
Royal Tern			40			21			50		12						123	4
Forster's Tern		1	23			14			2		5						45	5
Least Tern						7	2		2		118						129	4
Black Skimmer			2			1					100						103	3
Rock Dove	76		27	7		9	3	4	3	8	25	9	14	21	49		255	13
Eurasian Collared Dove			1			10			1			7					19	4
Mourning Dove	128	7	112	72	7	12	50	28	39	30	14	55	48	11	187	21	821	16
Common Ground-Dove							3										3	1
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	8		22	5	2	7	3	8	2			5	7		4	1	74	12
Barn Owl			2								2				2		6	3
Eastern Screech-Owl				1								4	2		1		8	4
Great Horned Owl	1		3	2						1	2		3		3	1	16	8

12 May 2001	AIKE	BEAU	CHAR	CHER	CHES	COLL	DORC	FAIR	GEOR	HAMP	JASP	LEXI	OCON	RICH	SPAR	WILL	TOTAL Individuals	# Counties Reporting Species
Barred Owl	8		12		1		3					1	3		1	2	31	8
Common Nighthawk	2		6								9	1			3	4	25	6
Chuck-will's-widow	14		9	2			1	1			2	3	2		14	1	49	10
Whip-poor-will	3			7				2				2	8		17		39	6
Chimney Swift	40		20	64	11	10	45	19	1	24	5	24	79	48	94	6	490	15
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	6		13	1	2		2	5	1	1	1	7	10	2	25	4	80	14
Belted Kingfisher	1				1								8		1		11	4
Red-headed Woodpecker	7		3			2	4	2	2	10	4	5		4	1	2	46	12
Red-bellied Woodpecker	39	13	41	7	6	14	24	12	5	5	9	25	17	13	41	2	273	16
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker															2		2	1
Downy Woodpecker	14	4	7	4	1	10	2	8				4	4	2	23		83	12
Hairy Woodpecker	2	2	1				1	1					3		1		11	7
Red-cockaded Woodpecker			1														1	1
Northern Flicker	3		1	3	1	2	1		1		2	3	5		9	1	32	12
Pileated Woodpecker	11	3	15	6	1	4	7	4	2			2	10	4	11	1	81	14
Eastern Wood-Pewee	26	2	71	2	4	30	1	6	6	2		9	3	7	9		178	14
Acadian Flycatcher	15		22		6	15	8	10	1			4	8	9	9		107	11
Eastern Phoebe	2	4		8				5				2	24		34		79	7
Great Crested Flycatcher	34	6	85	8	2	57	36	19	14	2	5	23	15	14	11	1	332	16
Eastern Kingbird	33	2	9	27	10	19	12	6	8	20	8	19	13	5	25	5	221	16
Purple Martin	15		24	17	12	71	8	9	12	58		13	56	2	63	3	363	14
Tree Swallow			45			16	48			6	4		5		5		129	7
N. Rough-winged Swallow	7		1	2	2			36				3	45	10	5		111	9
Bank Swallow													2		2		4	2
Cliff Swallow				20	500			110					10		132		772	5
Barn Swallow	23		5	61	26	8	16	8	3	20	4	26	53	10	67	2	332	15
Blue Jay	36	8	52	34	12	15	28	17	3	5	9	31	18	8	120	6	402	16
American Crow	89	13	95	57	10	12	46	29		7	7	54	63	13	162	7	664	15
Fish Crow	14		31		6	6	9	10	4	10	10	2	4	3			109	12
crow sp.	15		23					10		23							71	4

12 May 2001	AIKE	BEAU	CHAR	CHER	CHES	COLL	DORC	FAIR	GEOR	HAMP	JASP	LEXI	OCON	RICH	SPAR	WILL	TOTAL Individuals	# Counties Reporting Species
Common Raven													1				1	1
Carolina Chickadee	40	18	112	18	8	24	13	12	5	3	3	33	24	9	73	2	397	16
Tufted Titmouse	64	32	171		8	40	35	19	21	3	6	37	27	37	97	1	598	15
White-breasted Nuthatch	5	2	3			21			2	1	1		1	4	21		61	10
Brown-headed Nuthatch	5		4		4	3	1	9	1	6		8	4	3	30	1	79	13
Carolina Wren	41	20	62		6	16	31	19	3	1	5	35	23	12	65	2	341	15
House Wren													1		23		24	2
Marsh Wren			54			3					30						87	3
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	31	6	59		4	46	33	23	8	5	8	16	38	14	17	2	310	15
Eastern Bluebird	30	22	15		12	14	9	8	2	19	6	21	52	1	114	4	329	15
Veery		2				2											4	2
Swainson's Thrush			1										1				2	2
Hermit Thrush															1		1	1
Wood Thrush	9		5	4	1		2		1				10	1	12		45	9
American Robin	7			89	8		5	8	14			18	40	21	198	1	409	11
Gray Catbird	1			5	2		1	5	2			3	11	2	29	1	62	11
Northern Mockingbird	48	1	61	64	12	19	47	21	20	29	7	67	32	30	108	4	570	16
Brown Thrasher	12	2	34	16	3	5	18	5	13	13	3	7	25	5	57	3	221	16
Cedar Waxwing	26			131				5			54	7	99		24	10	356	8
Loggerhead Shrike	6			1			4		3	3		3		1		1	22	8
European Starling	62		136	47	4	24	47	4	14	4	3	3	38	10	117	5	518	15
White-eyed Vireo	28	12	80	7	1	24	17	4	1	3	4	4	12	7	5	2	211	16
Blue-headed Vireo			1					2					4				7	3
Yellow-throated Vireo	4		7			9	4	6				4	8	5	2		49	9
Red-eyed Vireo	45	2	37	15	6	16	10	24	14	1	1	5	68	22	25		291	15
Northern Parula	48	20	65		6	38	33	13	9	3	5	6	22	32	8	1	309	15
Yellow Warbler		2					2						4				8	3
Chestnut-sided Warbler				1													1	1
Magnolia Warbler															1		1	1
Cape May Warbler														1			1	1

12 May 2001	AIKE	BEAU	CHAR	CHER	CHES	COLL	DORC	FAIR	GEOR	HAMP	JASP	LEXI	OCON	RICH	SPAR	WILL	TOTAL Individuals	# Counties Reporting Species
Black-throated Blue Warbler								1					4	2			7	3
Yellow-rumped Warbler															2		2	1
Black-throated Green Warbler													15				15	1
Yellow-throated Warbler	2	4	32		2	16	29	7	3	2		5	11	12	7		132	13
Pine Warbler	44	14	88	8	4	46	13	21	10	3	3	19	22	9	22		326	15
Prairie Warbler	12	2			3	2	1	25	1			3	13		3		65	10
Bay-breasted Warbler									1								1	1
Blackpoll Warbler												1	3	1			5	3
Black-and-white Warbler	1	6	4					6	1				8	1			27	7
American Redstart	5	4			1			2	1		3		2	3	3		24	9
Prothonotary Warbler	14		21		4	4	18	4	6	1			2	21		1	96	11
Worm-eating Warbler	1						2	1					12				16	4
Swainson's Warbler	5						4						4	2			15	4
Ovenbird			1				1		2				14		1		19	5
Louisiana Waterthrush	5				3			5					7				20	4
Kentucky Warbler	2		3			1	3	3				2	6	5			25	8
Common Yellowthroat	4		72	10		36	2	11	4	2	7	4	12	7	9		180	13
Hooded Warbler	3		6		1	3	1	12	1			2	31	2	1		63	11
Wilson's Warbler				1													1	1
Yellow-breasted Chat	31		5	10		7	3	4		1	2		22	3	5		93	11
Summer Tanager	51	2	61		4	15	16	10	5	7		16	7	15	18	1	228	14
Scarlet Tanager				2								1	8		4		15	4
Northern Cardinal	180	120	129	51	12	32	8	24	22	23	17	70	51	32	133	8	912	16
Rose-breasted Grosbeak					1		1	2					1				5	4
Blue Grosbeak	23	2	17	6	2	5	7	6	1	7		4	14	4	7	2	107	15
Indigo Bunting	111		26	29	3	28	18	17	2	9	3	22	76	40	46	1	431	15
Painted Bunting	6	38	29			16	14		7	4	4	1		3			122	10
Eastern Towhee	46	4	51	21	3	36	16	11	10		2	14	19	4	58	1	296	15
Bachman's Sparrow	4		3	22		1											30	4
Chipping Sparrow	7		9	17	1	1		8	2			6	19	1	38	4	113	12

12 May 2001	AIKE	BEAU	CHAR	CHER	CHES	COLL	DORC	FAIR	GEOR	HAMP	JASP	LEXI	OCON	RICH	SPAR	WILL	TOTAL Individuals	# Counties Reporting Species
Field Sparrow					2	1		3					11		14		31	5
Savannah Sparrow	2		4		1								3		3		13	5
Grasshopper Sparrow				3	3								18		2		26	4
Seaside Sparrow											3						3	1
Song Sparrow				13									12		16		41	3
White-throated Sparrow				1									1		8	2	12	4
White-crowned Sparrow													2				2	1
Dark-eyed Junco													1				1	1
Bobolink	57					16	30				125			50			278	5
Red-winged Blackbird	63	20	1351	24	10	192	42	5	35	13	254	23	52	1	56	12	2153	16
Eastern Meadowlark	11	2			7			7					30		34		91	6
Boat-tailed Grackle		85	193			86	41		39		45						489	6
Common Grackle	82		171	61	12	110	48	27		28		39	57	24	144	4	807	13
Brown-headed Cowbird	27	2	45	4	2	25	8	6	10	1	10	30	14	12	32		228	15
blackbird sp.			10														10	1
Orchard Oriole	5			5		7	15	13	4	9	3	6	6	10		3	86	12
Baltimore Oriole	3	6															9	2
Purple Finch															12		12	1
House Finch	28		21	22		3	5	9	9	6		50	13	10	68	6	250	13
American Goldfinch	9			12	4		5	11				4	44	2	66	3	160	10
House Sparrow	15		4	18	7	4	21	4	3	1		15	16	10	24		142	13
sandpiper sp?						30							1				31	2
Sharp-tailed Sparrow sp?											3						3	1
empid sp?			2	1													3	2
																	TOTALS	
Species	107	58	133	71	70	111	101	84	99	68	100	77	117	75	105	58	184	
Individuals	2717	640	6546	1274	876	2565	1549	951	1028	955	2706	1008	2008	711	3475	195	18655	

12 May 2001	AIKE	BEAU	CHAR	CHER	CHES	COLL	DORC	FAIR	GEOR	HAMP	JASP	LEXI	OCON	RICH	SPAR	WILL	TOTAL Individuals	# Counties Reporting Species
Observers	17	4	17	11	1	3	3	1	5	3	17	3	7	2	68	3	165	
Parties	11	1	16	10	1	2	8	1	3	1	7	2	4	1	53	2	123	
#Counties	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	16	
Hours foot	26.3	2.5	19.8	11.5	2	3.5	11	5.5	11.8	6.75	13	2	13.4	6	52	10	196.9	
Hours car	19.8	4	243	13	6.5	4.5	11	7	9	4.75	8.5	10	15.8	3	21	4	384.8	
Hours boat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2.75	0	3.75	
Hours canoe/kayak	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Hours other	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	0	0	0	15	
Miles foot	10.8	1.5	14.5	11.5	5	1.5	9	4	7.5	3.5	9	2	5.5	4	26.5	2	117.8	
Miles car	98.5	6.5	49	156	116	27	175	204	82	124	39	183	252	45	346	8	1910.5	
Miles boat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	6	0	12	
Miles canoe/kayak	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3.5	0	0	0	3.5	
Miles other	0	0	10.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10.5	
Hours Feeder Watch	1.5	0	7	12.5	0	0	10	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	77.5	0	110.5	
#Feeder Watchers	1	0	3	8	0	0	4	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	40	0	59	
#Feeder Stations	5	0	3	6	0	0	4	0	0	0	1	5	0	0	26	0	50	
Hours Stationary	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13.5	0	0	0	0	0	15.5	
#Parties Stationary	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	
#Observers Stationary	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	6	
Hours Owling	1	0	5.5	2.5	0	0	0	0.5	0	0	2	3	1	1	6.5	0	23	
Miles Owling	6	0	-	2.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	5	0	21	0	38.5	
#parties owling	1	0	-	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	1	1	5	0	14	
#observers owling	1	0	-	2	0	0	0	1		0	4	1	2	2	8	0	21	

12 May 2001	AIKE	BEAU	CHAR	CHER	CHES	COLL	DORC	FAIR	GEOR	HAMP	JASP	LEXI	OCON	RICH	SPAR	WILL	TOTAL Individuals	# Counties Reporting Species
TEMPERATURE: PRE-DAWN	65	63	60	-	52	-	-	-	-	-	55	54	-	-	-	62		
DAWN	66	75	63	61	57	60	-	56	-	62	58	54	65	-	61	63		
AM	74	84	80	-	61	68	-	-	-	84	60	70	72	-	-	66		
NOON	80	-	85	-	83	82	-	-	-	84	75	80	82	-	-	74		
PM	76	-	70	82	86	72	-	86	-	83	88	83	80	-	82	78		
SUNSET	70	-	-	-	80	-	-	65	-	-	73	-	79	-	-	72		
NIGHT	65	-	-	-	52	-	-	-	-	-	-	72	-	-	-	70		
WIND: PRE-DAWN	0	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	0	1	0	-	-	-	2		
DAWN	0	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	1	0	1	-	-	2		
AM	2	1	1	2	-	3	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	2	2		
NOON	1	-	1	2	-	3	-	-	-	1	1	0	2	-	2	2		
PM	2	-	2	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	1	0	2	-	-	2		
SUNSET	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	-	-	-	2		
NIGHT	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	2		
%CLOUDS: PRE-DAWN	50	0	75	-	10	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	10		
DAWN	50	0	50	-	10	0	-	0	-	10	0	-	40	-	-	10		
AM	95	30	10	10	20	0	-	10	-	40	0	30	10	-	10	10		
NOON	100	-	5	10	40	10	-	30	-	95	15	-	70	-	10	10		
PM	80	-	100	-	50	100	-	95	-	70	10	-	100	-	-	10		
SUNSET	75	-	-	-	70	100	-	100	-	-	10	-	100	-	-	10		
NIGHT	80	-	-	-	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10		
PRECIPITATION: PRE-DAWN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	-	0	0		
DAWN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	-	0	0		
AM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	-	0	0		
NOON	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	-	0	0		
PM	0.52	-	0.1	0	tr	0.1	0	0.2	-	0	0	0	tr	-	0	0		
SUNSET	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	1	-	0	0	0	0	-	0	0		
NIGHT	0	-	0	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	-	0	0		

Will Cook
North Carolina Editor
418 Sharon Road
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
cwcook@acpub.duke.edu

Dennis M. Forsythe
South Carolina Editor
Department of Biology
The Citadel
Charleston, SC 29409
forsythed@citadel.edu
(843) 953-7264
Fax: (803) 953-7084

Least Tern Colony at Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina

Steven Lohr
20 CES/CEV
345 Cullen Street
Shaw AFB, SC 29152

Dan Ryan
20 CES/CEV
345 Cullen Street
Shaw AFB, SC 29152

Roof-nesting of Least Terns (*Sterna antillarum*) was first documented at a Florida site in 1957 (Goodnight 1957). Since then, roof nesting has been documented in many other southeastern states (Fisk 1975; Young 1991; Cooper 1994). Historically, these birds used sandy beaches for nesting, but development pressures on barrier islands in the southeastern United States have forced terns to find alternative nest sites.

Shaw Air Force Base is a 3,367-acre installation in Sumter County, South Carolina, approximately 85 miles from the coast. Least Terns were first observed on the base in April 2001 foraging on a series of small ponds associated with the base golf course. It was assumed that the birds were transients, but when terns were witnessed into June, we began searching for possible breeding locations. Using aerial photographs and ground reconnaissance, all potentially suitable rooftops were identified. Foraging birds were then followed back to the colony atop the BX building (the base department store) on 20 June 2001. At this time, one chick approximately 2-3 days old was located on the rooftop, and seven adults were seen flying above. On a return visit to the site on 2 July, one chick approximately 15 days old was located and banded, and eight adults were observed. On 11 July, a juvenile was observed making short flights around the roof with the adults and was assumed to be the chick observed in the previous two visits.

The colony site is on a one-story building with a multi-tiered tar and gravel roof (33°58'36"N, 80°28'42") built in the 1950s, similar to that reported by Cooper (1994). Several buildings in the area have similar rooftops, though no

terns were found on them. The chick was found on the lower tier of the roof. Several scrapes were observed on the upper tier of the roof. It is possible that nests were initiated on the upper tier and the chick fell 1.7 m to the lower tier after hatching. The lower tier has adequate shade, a water source in the form of air conditioning units and ventilation fans, and good drainage (so standing water is not a problem). The lower tier has several drainage slots that could prove hazardous to moving chicks because the slot openings are only 2" above the gravel on the roof. If the terns nest again next year, these openings will be screened. The upper tier has no shade or water source. The terns seemed to forage exclusively on the three golf course ponds 200 - 550 meters from the nesting site. The ponds are 5.2, 5.4, and 7 acres and contain a large number of suitable forage fish, including juvenile Largemouth Bass (*Micropterus salmoides*), Bluegill (*Lepomis* sp.), Eastern Mosquitofish (*Gambusia holbrookii*), and shiners (*Notemigonus* sp.), as evidenced by ongoing studies on the ponds.

The Least Terns at Shaw Air Force Base are the farthest inland documented roof-nesting colony in North or South Carolina and the first away from a large body of water. The closest large body of water is Lake Marion, 25 miles to the south. Other inland records include Lake Marion (Post 1967) and Lake Murray (Chamberlain 1960), which are 65 and 110 miles from the coast, respectively. Post (1967) questioned whether South Carolina's inland-nesting terns were of the coastal (*S. a. antellarum*) or the interior (*S. a. athalassos*) population. This is of particular concern now, since the interior population of Least Terns was listed as federally endangered in 1985. US Fish and Wildlife Service officials do not consider the South Carolina terns as the interior population, but more careful analysis is needed. Least Terns exhibit site fidelity (Attwood and Massey 1988), so the colony might be active again next year. If this is the case, the terns will be monitored more closely, and modifications will be made to the roof to increase its suitability by ensuring adequate shade, water, and protection from dangerous drop-offs.

Given the decline in suitable natural nesting sites for Least Terns in the Southeast, rooftops are of increasing value as colony sites. Roof-nesting terns have demonstrated similar or increased productivity when compared to those using natural sites (Gore and Kinnison 1991; Krogh and Schweitzer 1999), so rooftops provide a viable option for nesting terns. The terns on our site were not as productive as those in the above studies, however, as a minimum of four pairs of terns produced only one chick. But it is likely that other pairs had failed nesting attempts, perhaps from chicks falling from the roof (although none was found). Predation pressures are reduced on rooftop colonies since terrestrial predators do not have access. Avian predation by crows (*Corvus* sp.), extreme temperatures, flooding, and falling, however, are all sources of mortality for rooftop-nesting terns (Fisk 1978, Krogh and Schweitzer 1999).

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Second Record of Calliope Hummingbird in North Carolina

Harry E. LeGrand, Jr.
N.C. Natural Heritage Program
1615 MSC
Raleigh, NC 27699-1615

Betty C. Scott
445 White Heron Cove
Hampstead, NC 28443

In late February 1997, Scott observed an unfamiliar hummingbird at her feeders near Hampstead in Pender County, North Carolina. She noted that it was noticeably smaller than a probable Rufous Hummingbird *(Selasphorus rufus)* that was also visiting her hummingbird feeders. On 24 February, Derb Carter paid a visit to Scott's feeders and was able to study the small hummingbird. He identified it as a Calliope Hummingbird *(Stellula calliope)*, the second report of this Western species for North Carolina. The first report was of an immature male photographed at New Bern in late October 1995 (Thompson *et al.* 1997).

Many birders traveled to Hampstead over the next two weeks to look at the hummingbird, presumably a female, and to corroborate Carter's identification. Because Calliope Hummingbird is extremely rare in the Eastern United States, and because female hummingbirds are notoriously difficult to identify,

considerable study of the bird was undertaken. LeGrand observed the hummingbird with John Fussell, Will Cook, and Jeff Pippen on 25 February. During this visit, the hummingbird was not only seen within 25 feet through the kitchen window but was also in the front yard from a distance of 50 feet, where the bird perched in the open in shrubs near the feeder. In fact, the observation in the front yard was more revealing of the true plumage colors because the angle of light and the red coloration of the feeder imparted misleading colors on the bird.

When seen at the feeder, the bird was clearly tiny to small, although no other birds were available for size comparison. The bill was medium length for a hummingbird and was slightly longer than the head; it was all black, very thin, and very slightly decurved. The head appeared large, perhaps because the tail was quite short and covered by the wings at rest. The tail appeared to be folded into a wedge or point when the bird was perched. The tail was dark green with white corners; no rufous color was visible in the tail. The back coloration was unusual for a hummingbird, as it was a bright emerald or grass green, perhaps with a slight bluish tint; most other hummingbirds have a dark green or a golden-green color on the back. The wings were dark, with the folded primaries being pale black.

The throat was white with faint, broken gray-brown spots; the spots were larger and browner near the cheeks. The middle of the underparts was white from the throat to the belly. The sides of the upper breast, flanks, and vent were a light buffy-rust color, and this color was more noticeable when the feathers were fluffed. The head was mostly greenish, with slightly darker lores. The forehead was brownish- to grayish-green. There was a faint, whitish line running behind the eye and curving down the side of the neck. The cheek was flecked with gray-brown.

LeGrand heard the bird call on several occasions. The calls were a high and soft smacking or twittering, somewhat like a call of the Dark-eyed Junco *(Junco hyemalis)*.

LeGrand, Fussell, Cook, and Pippen carefully reviewed several field guides, both those with color paintings (*e.g.*, National Geographic Society 1983) and those with color photographs (Farrand 1983, Udvardy and Farrand 1994; Stokes and Stokes 1996). Costa's Hummingbird *(Calypte costae)* was perhaps the leading identification candidate, because of its small size. This species lacks buff-colored flanks, however, and the female has an unstreaked white throat. Anna's Hummingbird *(C. anna)* is a much larger bird than Calliope and seldom if ever shows buffy or rufous flanks. The soft rufous color in the flanks and vent are sometimes seen in *Archilochus* hummingbirds – [Ruby-throated *(A. colubris)* and Black-chinned *(A. alexandri)* hummingbirds]. However, these hummingbirds are also larger with more obvious tails and do not normally show an emerald green or grass green back color. *Selasphorus* hummingbirds – Rufous, Allen's *(S. sasin)*, and Broad-tailed *(S. platycercus)* – have extensive rufous coloration on the flanks, and they have noticeable

rufous coloration on the base of the tail feathers. Broad-tailed Hummingbird often shows a pale rufous color on the flanks and little rufous in the tail, but it is a moderately large hummingbird with a fairly ample tail that is not short.

Most observers agreed with the initial identification of the hummingbird as Calliope, but some were not certain as to its identity, believing that the bill was too long for Calliope. This idea of a "short bill" for female Calliope was based mainly on the text and painting in the National Geographic Society (1983) guide. However, the photos of female Calliope in Udvardy and Farrand (1994) and Stokes and Stokes (1996) show a bill of seemingly medium length and not drawing attention for being short or long. Male Calliopes do have noticeably short bills, based on photos in these latter two references and in Farrand (1983).

The North Carolina Bird Records Committee (1998) accepted this record, using notes provided by Pippen, LeGrand, and Jack Peachey (during a visit on 4 March). Although photos of the bird were taken, several Committee members felt that the photos, taken while the bird was at a feeder, were misrepresentative (*e.g.*, a buffy color to the breast was imparted by reflections of the red feeder, and the iridescent color of the back feathers was not visible because of the light angle). Thus, photos were not used in the voting. Fortunately, the bird seen at New Bern in 1995 was an immature male with a single, elongate, and iridescent magenta-colored gorget feather that clearly shows in photographs reviewed by the Committee (LeGrand, pers. obs.).

The description of this bird was sent to an outside expert in hummingbird identification. The reviewer indicated that "Some of the characteristics given for this bird are not good for Calliope. If I were on a records committee, I doubt I would have passed [the report]." Another expert reviewed the photograph mentioned above and suggested to LeGrand, Pippen, and Cook that the bird might have been a *Selasphorus* species. LeGrand has seen this photograph, and the red reflections off the feeder impart a pale red or pink shade to the entire underparts of the bird, giving LeGrand the misleading impression that the bird in the photograph might be a *Selasphorus* speciesAfter these two negative outside reviews came back, Will Cook, North Carolina General Field Notes Editor of the *Chat*, posted photos of the hummingbird at the feeder, along with a description of the bird, on a website and asked for additional comments from birders familiar with hummingbirds. The responses were evenly split between Calliope and Rufous/Allen's. Negative comments mentioned that the tail appeared to extend beyond the wingtips, the bill looked somewhat long, and throat feathering that did not appear correct for Calliope. Others noted, however, that the wings appeared to be longer than the tail and the bill looked short and straight, without the droop at the tip that *Selasphorus* hummingbirds usually have. Another reviewer commented that the bird in the photo did not appear to have a pale spot just in front of the eye that breaks up the dark eyeline, a mark often visible on typical female Calliopes.

Cook has the same model of feeder at his house as was present in the photos. Using two photos of the bird at the feeder, and carefully measuring enlargements of the slides, he estimated that the exposed culmen length is 16.2 mm and the total length of the bird is 82 mm. According to Pyle (1997), the normal exposed culmen length of a female Calliope ranges from 14.3 - 16.5 mm, whereas in a female Rufous it ranges from 16.4 - 19.0. Thus, the bird's bill falls within the range of the Calliope, though near the upper end, and falls slightly below that of a normal Rufous.

Despite these many non-supportive outside reviews, it should be understood that none of these reviewers who believe the bird to be a *Selasphorus* hummingbird observed the Hampstead bird. In particular, it can be difficult for a photo and a description of a female hummingbird to corroborate a sighting. Different observers likely would describe the length or curvature of the bill, the degree of buff color on the flanks, and the shade of green on the back, for example, in different ways. These differences could be due to observer distance from the bird, amount and angle of sunlight on the bird, or intensity of reflected tints on the bird from the red color of the feeder. Size of a bird is usually difficult to determine from a photograph, as well. The senior author believes that the overwhelming agreement by dozens of persons who observed the bird that it was, indeed, a Calliope Hummingbird, plus the acceptance by the Records Committee as a Calliope, should outweigh concerns about the identification by persons who did not actually see the Hampstead hummingbird.

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BRIEFS FOR THE FILES

Ricky Davis
608 Smallwood Drive
Rocky Mount, NC 27804
RJDNC@aol.com

All Dates Summer 2001

Briefs for the Files is a seasonal collection of uncommon-to-rare or unusual North and South Carolina bird sightings and events that do not require a more detailed Field Note or article. Reports of your sightings are due the 20th of the month after the end of the previous season.

Winter = December 1 - February 28, due March 20
Spring = March 1 - May 31, due June 20
Summer = June 1 - July 31, due August 20
Fall = August 1 - November 30, due December 20

Reports can be submitted in any format, but I prefer that you type them and list the sightings according to the birds in checklist order (not according to dates or locations). If you submit your report to me through e-mail, please type your report directly into the message or copy it from a word processing program directly into the message. You may also attach your file to the e-mail, but if you do, please let me know the program used and also send a second version saved as a text (txt.) file.

Suitable reports for the Briefs include any sightings you feel are unusual, rare, noteworthy, or just plain interesting to you in any way! It is my responsibility to decide which reports merit inclusion in the Briefs.

Please be sure to include details of any rare or hard-to-identify birds.

I rely in part on sightings reported in Carolinabirds. Please don't, however, rely on me to pick up your sightings from Carolinabirds. Instead, please also send your sightings directly to me as described above.

If I feel that your sighting warrants a Field Note, I will contact either you or the appropriate state Field Notes editor. You may, of course, submit your Field Note directly to the editor without going through me.

COMMON LOON: One found in the North River, Carteret County, NC, July 8 was in full alternate plumage (Rich & Susan Boyd). Summer lingering loons are practically annual, but they usually are in basic plumage.

PIED-BILLED GREBE: An adult Pied-billed was a surprise on the New River, Ashe County, NC, July 4, as noted by Dwayne & Lori Martin. Summer

sightings of this species become increasingly rare, especially as you head toward the mountains.

HERALD PETREL: There were two reports of this annual, expected seabird. Both off Hatteras, NC, one was seen July 8 and another was found July 28 (Brian Patteson *et al.*).

FEA'S PETREL: This rare and elusive *Pterodroma* was found once, that being off Oregon Inlet, NC, June 10 (Focus On Nature Tours-Paul Guris *et al.*).

BERMUDA PETREL: One found off Oregon Inlet, NC, June 10 (F.O.N.T.-Paul Guris *et al.*) provided another sighting for that state's waters. This bird and another from the spring season made it four years in a row that this rare and endangered species has been found off North Carolina.

GREATER SHEARWATER: This summer's shore-based sightings included one near Emerald Isle, NC, June 20 (Jim Bloor), five near C. Hatteras Point, NC, June 21-22 (Susan Campbell), and several dead or dying found on beaches in the C. Lookout, NC, area in late June (John Fussell, sev. obs.).

MANX SHEARWATER: This species was present off Hatteras, NC, for most of the summer, an unusual event. Single birds were seen July 7 and 29, while an amazing count of 7-8 was had July 8 (Brian Patteson *et al.*). One wonders if the presence of these birds meant that there were some nesting failures in the northern Atlantic breeding sites.

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN: A group of this species was present at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper County, SC, for most of the summer. The peak count noted was 136 (an impressive total for the Carolinas) July 30 (Steve Calver).

GREAT CORMORANT: Great Cormorants sometimes linger into summer at a few select locations. This year one was at Ft. Macon, NC, June 10, as noted by Randy Newman.

ANHINGA: One was a surprise on Swift Creek just northeast of Rocky Mount, NC, July 15 (Ricky Davis). This site is about 20 miles away from known summer hangouts near the Roanoke River in Halifax County.

MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD: Frigatebirds are annual visitors to the Carolinas. This summer's reports were of singles at Folly Beach, SC, June 1 (Tom Nicolls) and C. Lookout, NC, June 2 (Jeannie Kraus *et al.*, *fide* John Fussell).

AMERICAN BITTERN: One near the Laurinburg, NC, airport, July 22-26 (Barbara Gearhart) was unexpected. This species is usually not present, especially inland, until the fall.

REDDISH EGRET: The number of reports of this annual visitor was down this year. Sightings, from the usual spots, included singles at Huntington Beach State Park, SC, June 27 (Bob Maxwell), Sunset Beach, NC, July 22 (Barbara Gearhart), and Ft. Fisher, NC, July 29 (Sam Cooper).

CATTLE EGRET: One was a good find at a pond along Snelson Rd., Madison County, NC, June 20 (Len and Esther Pardue). Summer reports are hard to come by in the mountains.

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON: The only report was of an immature bird at L. Osceola, Hendersonville, NC, July 31 (Ron Selvey).

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK: One was found at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, July 19 (Steve Calver). It is quite possible that this individual came from the nearby ACE Basin area, where this species has been seen off-and-on the last several years.

NORTHERN PINTAIL: Rare as a summer lingerer in the Carolinas, one was a good find at a small lake in Transylvania County, NC, July 8 (Nancy Iha).

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER: A female was very late on the Shallotte River, Brunswick County, NC, June 16, as noted by Bob Perkins.

HOODED MERGANSER: Summer reports of this duck are always noteworthy. Sightings included single birds at the Little Creek Impoundment, Chapel Hill, NC, June 3 (Rob Gluck and Rick Payne) and at Emerald Isle, NC, July 21 (Jamie Cameron).

RUDDY DUCK: This species is an uncommon, very localized breeder in the Carolinas. Thus of note were two more breeding records for the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, with a female and 11 young June 7 and a female with three young July 7 (Steve Calver).

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE: Swallow-tailed Kites are regular spring transients along North Carolina's Outer Banks. Sightings there in summer are much more unusual. This year one to three were present in the Buxton area in early July (Marcia Lyons, sev. obs.). Were these non-breeding lingering birds?

MISSISSIPPI KITE: The Laurinburg, NC, area once again had two known nests, with both being successful (Barbara Gearhart). This species was also present again all summer in the Croatan Forest, NC, area (John Fussell). The largest concentration reported this summer was of 40 in a swirling flock at the Ventosa location in Halifax County, NC, June 9 (Ricky Davis).

NORTHERN HARRIER: From two to three Harriers spent the summer at Alligator River N.W.R., NC, although no breeding evidence was found (Jeff Lewis). Practically all breeding records have come from immediate coastal marshes along Pamlico and Core Sounds.

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK: The only report of this rare summer resident came from Jasper County, SC, June 11 (Will Cook), which could have been a non-breeding wanderer.

BROAD-WINGED HAWK: An immature Broad-winged in Conway, SC, July 21, provided a rare outer Coastal Plain report (Gary Phillips).

AMERICAN KESTREL: Summer sightings included a probable early migrant at Aynor, SC, July 29 (Stephen Thomas) and a family of two adults and a juvenile at the Cherry Hospital, Wayne County, NC, July 1 (Ricky Davis). This latter site has been a regular breeding location for several years now.

UPLAND SANDPIPER: The first fall migrants reported included two at the New Hanover County Airport, NC, July 28 (Sam Cooper) and one at the Bucksport, SC, Sod Farm July 29 (Stephen Thomas).

WHIMBREL: Very rare inland, especially in the mountains, one was an excellent find at Hooper Lane, Henderson County, NC, July 25 (Wayne Forsythe and Bob Olthoff).
SANDERLING: One at Seaforth, Jordan Lake, NC, July 21 was the only one reported inland this season (Jeff Pippen).
WESTERN SANDPIPER: Inland sightings included two in eastern Franklin County, NC, July 22 (Ricky Davis) and five at Hooper Lane, NC, July 25 (Wayne Forsythe and Bob Olthoff).
STILT SANDPIPER: Noteworthy inland reports involved one at New Bern, NC, July 21 (Bob Holmes) and 6-8 at Hooper Lane, NC, July 25-29 (Wayne Forsythe and Bob Olthoff).
RUFF: The Savannah Spoil Site, SC, is becoming one of the best places for locating this rare shorebird. One was present there again this summer on July 10, as noted by Paul Sykes.
SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER: The best inland report was of five at Hooper Lane, NC, July 25 (Wayne Forsythe and Bob Olthoff).
WILSON'S PHALAROPE: Noteworthy was one at Pea I. N.W.R., NC, July 21 (Russ & Patricia Tyndall). The Savannah Spoil Site, SC, often harbors good numbers of this species, and the peak count noted was 13 on July 30 (Steve Calver).
PARASITIC JAEGER: This species is much less common than the Pomarine Jaeger during summer. Thus of note were one near shore at C. Hatteras Point, NC, June 22 (Susan Campbell) and one offshore out of Hatteras, NC, July 29 (Brian Patteson *et al.*).
LONG-TAILED JAEGER: A rare mid-summer sighting was of one off Hatteras, NC, July 7 (Brian Patteson *et al.*). Less unusual were early migrants off Hatteras July 28 & 29 (Patteson *et al.*).
HERRING GULL: One lingered surprisingly late at Falls Lake, NC, June 3 (Brian Bockhahn).
ICELAND/HERRING GULL HYBRID: An individual photographed at the Cedar I. Ferry Terminal, NC, July 8 (Rich and Susan Boyd) had the plumage of an Iceland Gull but showed structural characters of a larger species such as Herring Gull. Adding to the strangeness of this bird was the mid-summer timing of the sighting.
CASPIAN TERN: One at L. Wheeler, Wake County, NC, June 9 (Steve Shultz) was considered to be a late spring migrant.
SOOTY TERN: Summer reports of this species at tern colonies are almost annual in occurrence. This year one was present in the lower Cape Fear River, NC, in June (*fide* Jim O'Donnell), and one was on New Dump I., Core Sound, NC, June 24 (Micou Browne, Jim O'Donnell, *et al.*).
BAND-TAILED PIGEON: Two birds were heard and recorded near the Devil's Courthouse area of the Blue Ridge Parkway, NC, June 16 (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman, Steve Dennis). Although the birds were never seen, they provided the third report of this Western species for the state.

WHITE-WINGED DOVE: The Beaufort, NC, area continued to host this species (for the third year in a row), with a pair seen copulating July 21 (John Fussell *et al.*).

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO: The only report of this uncommon species was of two heard at Bunch Gap along the Blue Ridge Parkway, NC, June 9 (Wayne Forsythe and Bob Olthoff).

SHORT-EARED OWL: Unprecedented for our area, up to four Short-eared Owls remained at Alligator River N.W.R., NC, all summer (Jeff Lewis, sev. obs.). Although no direct breeding evidence was located during June or July, nesting was very possible.

SELASPHORUS HUMMINGBIRD: An immature male *Selasphorus* hummingbird at Simpsonville, SC, July 31 (Pete Worthington) was the first fall migrant reported.

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER: Locally unusual were an adult with two juveniles on Roanoke Island, NC, in early July (Jeff Lewis). Nesting by this species is quite rare at that location.

WILLOW FLYCATCHER: One singing near Coddle Creek Res., Cabarrus County, NC, June 19 was probably a late spring migrant (Danny Swicegood).

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER: The nesting pair near Monroe, NC, for the second year in a row, successfully fledged four young June 24-25 (Anne Olsen). And a second adult male showed up at the site July 5-9, providing what must have been an impressive sight – two males, a female, and four young all at once (Olsen)!

BLACK-WHISKERED VIREO: North Carolina's fifth Black-whiskered Vireo was found on Baldhead Island, Brunswick County, June 6-22 (Greg Massey, Sam Cooper, sev. obs.). The bird, seeming to hang out with a Red-eyed Vireo, was possibly joined by a second (heard only) singing individual June 18 (Mary McDavit). One wonders if breeding occurred there this year.

WARBLING VIREO: North Carolina's most easterly known nesting site, at Anilorac Farm, Orange County, had young by June 3, as noted by Shelley Theye and Lee Van Malssen.

TREE SWALLOW: Two adults and one juvenile were seen near the north shore of L. Gaston at Eaton's Ferry, NC, June 8 (Harry LeGrand), providing a new nesting season report for that part of the state.

HOUSE WREN: This species is normally absent from the northern coastal area of North Carolina during the breeding season. Thus of note this summer were a singing wren at Southern Shores June 9 (Jeff Lewis) and a pair in June on Collington Island (Bob Burrell, *fide* Lewis). It is not known if nesting occurred.

GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH: One was quite late on Roanoke Island, NC, June 19 (Jeff Lewis).

CEDAR WAXWING: This species is notorious for lingering far to the east of its normal breeding range in North Carolina. This summer's easternmost reports

involved 5-6 in mainland Dare County June 18 and three in Manteo July 13 (Jeff Lewis). Breeding evidence, however, was not obtained for these birds.

BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER: One to two singing individuals were late migrants at the Savannah River Site, SC, in early June (*fide* Paul Champlin).

YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER: Summer reports of this species from the mountains are always noteworthy, especially since breeding has occurred rarely. This summer singing males were found near Craggy Gardens, NC, June 9 (Paul Champlin) and on Mt. Mitchell, NC, June 11 (Simon Thompson *et al.*).

BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER: One was considered to be a early migrant at Ft. Macon, NC, July 14 (John Daughtry).

OVENBIRD: Rarely observed in nature, a leucistic Ovenbird was photographed near Connestee, Transylvania County, NC, in July (Betty McIlwain, Ludwig Kempe). The bird was a pale creamy color with buffy areas and an orangish crown. Identification was based on size, structure, and behavior.

NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH: Another early migrant was one far to the south at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, July 10, as noted by Paul Sykes.

MOURNING WARBLER: A singing male Mourning Warbler was present near Carver's Gap, in the Roan Mountain, NC, area June 23-July 1 (Allan Trently, sev. obs.). This was the first breeding season report of this warbler for the Carolinas since birds were found near the Great Smoky Mountains from 1983-1986.

SAVANNAH SPARROW: One was totally out of season near the Aiken County, SC, airport, June 28 (Carol Eldridge, *fide* Anne Waters). Was this an absurdly late lingering bird or a wandering non-breeder?

WHITE-THROATED SPARROW: One was very late, still coming to a feeder, in Southern Shores, NC, June 17 (*fide* Jeff Lewis).

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK: Another tardy spring bird was the Rose-breasted Grosbeak found at the Savannah River Site, SC, June 7 (Paul Champlin).

DICKCISSEL: The nesting pair at Anilorac Farm, Orange County, NC, produced four eggs by June 24, and at least three young successfully fledged by early July (Shelley Theye, Lee Van Malssen, Kent Fiala, Norm Budnitz, sev. obs.). The nesting pair near Southport, NC, was last seen June 8 (Mary McDavit), and the success of that attempt is unknown. And 1-2 Dickcissels were once again present near Pettigrew State Park, Washington County, NC, June 17 (Harry LeGrand, Jeff Pippen, Toni Rexrode, Scott Hartley).

BOBOLINK: The only report received was of a pair in Alleghany County, NC, June 17 (Harrol Blevins *et al.*), with nesting evidence not found.

BALTIMORE ORIOLE: One at Bear Island, SC, July 14 was most likely a very early fall migrant (Donna Bailey and Sharon Brown).

RED CROSSBILL: Two at a feeder in Skyland, NC, June 10 (Simon Thompson) were rather unusual for that location at that date. The best counts

reported from the more normal locations included 10+ at Balsam Gap, Blue Ridge Parkway, NC, June 11 (Thompson *et al.*), 40 at Haywood Gap, Blue Ridge Parkway, NC, June 9 (Russ and Patricia Tyndall), and an impressive 75+ on Roan Mtn., NC, June 30 (Wayne Forsythe, Bob Olthoff, Marilyn Westphal). **PINE SISKIN:** One at a feeder in Hopkins, Richland County, SC, June 7 was very late, even for this unpredictable species (Gary Sowell, *fide* Tim Kalbach).

Instructions for Authors

www.carolinabirdclub.org/thechat.html

CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

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The Carolina Bird Club, Inc. is a non-profit educational and scientific association founded in 1937. Membership is open to those interested in the study and conservation of wildlife, particularly birds. Dues, contributions, and bequests to the Club may be deductible from state and federal income and estate taxes. Checks should be made payable to Carolina Bird Club, Inc. and sent to CBC Headquarters, 11 West Jones Street, Raleigh, NC 27601-1029.

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CBC members receive The Chat, a quarterly journal devoted to bird study and conservation, and the CBC Newsletter, which carries information about meetings, field trips, and club projects. Articles intended for publication in The Chat may be sent to the Editor or the appropriate editor listed in the inside front cover. Items for the Newsletter should be sent to its Editor, Judy Walker, 7639 Farm Gate Dr., Charlotte, NC 28215. Send correspondence regarding memberships, changes of address, or requests for back numbers of either publication to CBC Headquarters, 11 West Jones Street, Raleigh, NC 27601-1029.

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The Chat

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The Chat

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THE CHAT

(USPS 101-020)

Vol. 66 SPRING 2002 No. 2

Published by The Carolina Bird Club, Inc.

Editor

Bob Wood, 2421 Owl Circle
West Columbia, SC 29169
bobwood@ix.netcom.com

General Field Notes

North Carolina
Will Cook

South Carolina
Dennis M. Forsythe

Briefs for the Files ..... Ricky Davis

Associate Editor ..... Andrea Ceselski

Editor Emeritus ..... Eloise Potter

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North Carolina Bird List [February 2002]

North Carolina Bird Records Committee
Harry E. LeGrand, Jr., Chairman

Accepted List (species in brackets are Provisional; all others are Official)

Species found fewer than 10 times in the state are in boldface.

For those with 3 or fewer accepted records, the number of such records is listed; a + following a number indicates that there are additional reports that are being, or might be, voted on.

Red-throated Loon
Pacific Loon
Common Loon
Pied-billed Grebe
Horned Grebe
Red-necked Grebe
Eared Grebe
Western Grebe 3+
Yellow-nosed Albatross 1
[Black-browed Albatross] 1
Northern Fulmar
Herald Petrel
Bermuda Petrel
Black-capped Petrel
Fea's Petrel
Bulwer's Petrel 2
Cory's Shearwater
Greater Shearwater
Sooty Shearwater
Manx Shearwater
Audubon's Shearwater
Wilson's Storm-Petrel
White-faced Storm-Petrel
Leach's Storm-Petrel
Swinhoe's Storm-Petrel 1
Band-rumped Storm-Petrel
White-tailed Tropicbird
Red-billed Tropicbird
Masked Booby
Brown Booby
Northern Gannet
American White Pelican
Brown Pelican
Double-crested Cormorant
Great Cormorant
Anhinga
Magnificent Frigatebird
American Bittern
Least Bittern
Great Blue Heron
Great Egret
Snowy Egret
Little Blue Heron
Tricolored Heron
Reddish Egret
Cattle Egret
Green Heron
Black-crowned Night-Heron
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron
White Ibis
Glossy Ibis
Roseate Spoonbill
Wood Stork
Black Vulture
Turkey Vulture
Fulvous Whistling-Duck
Greater White-fronted Goose
Snow Goose
Ross's Goose
Canada Goose
Brant
Mute Swan
Tundra Swan
Wood Duck

Gadwall
Eurasian Wigeon
American Wigeon
American Black Duck
Mallard
Blue-winged Teal
Cinnamon Teal
Northern Shoveler
Northern Pintail
[Garganey] 1
Green-winged Teal
Canvasback
Redhead
Ring-necked Duck
Greater Scaup
Lesser Scaup
King Eider
Common Eider
Harlequin Duck
Surf Scoter
White-winged Scoter
Black Scoter
Long-tailed Duck
Bufflehead
Common Goldeneye
Hooded Merganser
Common Merganser
Red-breasted Merganser
Masked Duck 1
Ruddy Duck
Osprey
Swallow-tailed Kite
White-tailed Kite
Mississippi Kite
Bald Eagle
Northern Harrier
Sharp-shinned Hawk
Cooper's Hawk
Northern Goshawk
Red-shouldered Hawk
Broad-winged Hawk
Swainson's Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk
Rough-legged Hawk
Golden Eagle
American Kestrel
Merlin
[Gyrfalcon] 1
Peregrine Falcon
Ring-necked Pheasant
Ruffed Grouse
Wild Turkey
Northern Bobwhite
Yellow Rail
Black Rail
Clapper Rail
King Rail
Virginia Rail
Sora
Purple Gallinule
Common Moorhen
American Coot
Limpkin 3+
Sandhill Crane
Northern Lapwing 1
Black-bellied Plover
American Golden-Plover
[Snowy Plover] 1
Wilson's Plover
Semipalmated Plover
Piping Plover
Killdeer
American Oystercatcher
Black-necked Stilt
American Avocet
Greater Yellowlegs
Lesser Yellowlegs
Spotted Redshank 1
Solitary Sandpiper
Willet
Spotted Sandpiper
Upland Sandpiper
Whimbrel
Long-billed Curlew
Black-tailed Godwit 3
Hudsonian Godwit
Bar-tailed Godwit
Marbled Godwit
Ruddy Turnstone
Red Knot
Sanderling
Semipalmated Sandpiper

Western Sandpiper
Little Stint 1
Least Sandpiper
White-rumped Sandpiper
Baird's Sandpiper
Pectoral Sandpiper
Purple Sandpiper
Dunlin
Curlew Sandpiper
Stilt Sandpiper
Buff-breasted Sandpiper
Ruff
Short-billed Dowitcher
Long-billed Dowitcher
Common Snipe
American Woodcock
Wilson's Phalarope
Red-necked Phalarope
Red Phalarope
Great Skua
South Polar Skua
Pomarine Jaeger
Parasitic Jaeger
Long-tailed Jaeger
Laughing Gull
Franklin's Gull
Little Gull
Black-headed Gull
Bonaparte's Gull
Mew Gull
Ring-billed Gull
California Gull
Herring Gull
Yellow-legged Gull 1+
Thayer's Gull
Iceland Gull
Lesser Black-backed Gull
Glaucous Gull
Great Black-backed Gull
Sabine's Gull
Black-legged Kittiwake
Gull-billed Tern
Caspian Tern
Royal Tern
Sandwich Tern
Roseate Tern
Common Tern
Arctic Tern
Forster's Tern
Least Tern
Bridled Tern
Sooty Tern
[White-winged Tern] 1
Black Tern
Brown Noddy
Black Skimmer
Dovekie
Common Murre 1
Thick-billed Murre
Razorbill
[Black Guillemot] 1
[Long-billed Murrelet] 1
Atlantic Puffin 3+
Rock Dove
Band-tailed Pigeon 2+
Eurasian Collared-Dove
White-winged Dove
Mourning Dove
Passenger Pigeon Extinct
Common Ground-Dove
Carolina Parakeet Extinct
Black-billed Cuckoo
Yellow-billed Cuckoo
Smooth-billed Ani 1
[Groove-billed Ani] 1
Barn Owl
Eastern Screech-Owl
Great Horned Owl
Snowy Owl
Burrowing Owl 2
Barred Owl
Long-eared Owl
Short-eared Owl
Northern Saw-whet Owl
Lesser Nighthawk 1
Common Nighthawk
Antillean Nighthawk 2
Chuck-will's-widow
Whip-poor-will
Chimney Swift
Green Violet-ear 2
Green-breasted Mango 1

Broad-billed Hummingbird 1
Ruby-throated Hummingbird
Black-chinned Hummingbird
Anna's Hummingbird 1
Calliope Hummingbird 3+
Broad-tailed Hummingbird 1
Rufous Hummingbird
Belted Kingfisher
Red-headed Woodpecker
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Downy Woodpecker
Hairy Woodpecker
Red-cockaded Woodpecker
Northern Flicker
Pileated Woodpecker
Ivory-billed Woodpecker 1 Extinct?
Olive-sided Flycatcher
Eastern Wood-Pewee
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher
Acadian Flycatcher
Alder Flycatcher
Willow Flycatcher
Least Flycatcher
Eastern Phoebe
Say's Phoebe 3
Vermilion Flycatcher 3
Ash-throated Flycatcher
Great Crested Flycatcher
Tropical/Couch's Kingbird 1+
Western Kingbird
Eastern Kingbird
Gray Kingbird
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher
Fork-tailed Flycatcher 2
Loggerhead Shrike
Northern Shrike
White-eyed Vireo
[Bell's Vireo] 1
Yellow-throated Vireo
Blue-headed Vireo
Warbling Vireo
Philadelphia Vireo
Red-eyed Vireo
Black-whiskered Vireo
Blue Jay
American Crow
Fish Crow
Common Raven
Horned Lark
Purple Martin
Tree Swallow
Northern Rough-winged Swallow
Bank Swallow
Cliff Swallow
Cave Swallow
Barn Swallow
Carolina Chickadee
Black-capped Chickadee
Tufted Titmouse
Red-breasted Nuthatch
White-breasted Nuthatch
Brown-headed Nuthatch
Brown Creeper
Carolina Wren
Bewick's Wren
House Wren
Winter Wren
Sedge Wren
Marsh Wren
Golden-crowned Kinglet
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Northern Wheatear 3+
Eastern Bluebird
[Mountain Bluebird] 1
Veery
Gray-cheeked Thrush
Swainson's Thrush
Hermit Thrush
Wood Thrush
American Robin
Gray Catbird
Northern Mockingbird
Sage Thrasher 2
Brown Thrasher
European Starling
Black-backed Wagtail (=White Wagtail) 1
American Pipit
Sprague's Pipit 2+
Cedar Waxwing

Bachman's Warbler 2 Extinct?
Blue-winged Warbler
Golden-winged Warbler
Tennessee Warbler
Orange-crowned Warbler
Nashville Warbler
Northern Parula
Yellow Warbler
Chestnut-sided Warbler
Magnolia Warbler
Cape May Warbler
Black-throated Blue Warbler
Yellow-rumped Warbler
Black-throated Gray Warbler
Black-throated Green Warbler
Townsend's Warbler 2+
Blackburnian Warbler
Yellow-throated Warbler
Pine Warbler
Kirtland's Warbler 3+
Prairie Warbler
Palm Warbler
Bay-breasted Warbler
Blackpoll Warbler
Cerulean Warbler
Black-and-white Warbler
American Redstart
Prothonotary Warbler
Worm-eating Warbler
Swainson's Warbler
Ovenbird
Northern Waterthrush
Louisiana Waterthrush
Kentucky Warbler
Connecticut Warbler
Mourning Warbler
MacGillivray's Warbler 1
Common Yellowthroat
Hooded Warbler
Wilson's Warbler
Canada Warbler
Yellow-breasted Chat
Summer Tanager
Scarlet Tanager
Western Tanager
Spotted Towhee 1
Eastern Towhee
Bachman's Sparrow
American Tree Sparrow
Chipping Sparrow
Clay-colored Sparrow
Field Sparrow
Vesper Sparrow
Lark Sparrow
Lark Bunting
Savannah Sparrow
Grasshopper Sparrow
Henslow's Sparrow
Le Conte's Sparrow
Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow
Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow
Seaside Sparrow
Fox Sparrow
Song Sparrow
Lincoln's Sparrow
Swamp Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow
Harris's Sparrow
White-crowned Sparrow
Dark-eyed Junco
Lapland Longspur
Smith's Longspur 3+
Chestnut-collared Longspur 2
Snow Bunting
Northern Cardinal
Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Black-headed Grosbeak
Blue Grosbeak
Lazuli Bunting 1
Indigo Bunting
Painted Bunting
Dickcissel
Bobolink
Red-winged Blackbird
Eastern Meadowlark
[Western Meadowlark] 2
Yellow-headed Blackbird
Rusty Blackbird
Brewer's Blackbird
Common Grackle
Boat-tailed Grackle
Shiny Cowbird

Brown-headed Cowbird
Orchard Oriole
Bullock's Oriole
Baltimore Oriole
Brambling 1
Pine Grosbeak
Purple Finch
House Finch
Red Crossbill
White-winged Crossbill
Common Redpoll
Pine Siskin
[Lesser Goldfinch] 1
American Goldfinch
Evening Grosbeak
House Sparrow

Accepted List = 447 species
Official = 435
Provisional = 12

Unresolved List:
Bicknell's Thrush

Newly reported species needing a vote:
Black-tailed Gull
Pacific-slope Flycatcher
Green-tailed Towhee

Committee members:
Susan Campbell
Samuel Cooper
Richard J. Davis
Eric V. Dean
Harry E. LeGrand, Jr., Chairman
Roger D. McNeill
Simon R.B. Thompson

Instructions for Authors
www.carolinabirdclub.org/thechat.html

Fall 2001 North American Migration Day Count in South Carolina

Donna Slyce Bailey
550 Pin Oak Drive
Lexington, SC 29073

The Fall 2001 North American Migration Count was held on September 15, 2001. In South Carolina 18,568 individuals of 194 species were tallied. 111 observers in 74 parties participated in 13 counties across the state.

High winds adversely affected the Fall 2001 Count. All counties reported winds of Beaufort scale 2 or greater, with two counties reporting periods of winds of Beaufort scale 5. The high winds sent many birds into hiding and made hearing difficult. Those who did find birds on this windy day reported that they were in sheltered areas, out of the wind.

A comparison of the Fall 2000 and the Fall 2001 Counts reveals that the diversity of birds reported was undermined somewhat by the difficulty of finding birds in the winds. While the Fall 2001 Count had two more counties reporting than reported in fall 2000 and, consequently, greater coverage and participation, six fewer species and 1,525 fewer individual birds were tallied for fall 2001. Shorebird and songbird diversity within selected families on the Fall 2001 Count was down from the previous autumn's count, while sparrow diversity increased slightly. Several species of shorebird were absent from the Fall 2001 Count, including Black-necked Stilt and American Avocet, perhaps due simply to the absence of Jasper County (and the Savannah Spoil Site) from the Fall 2001 Count. 29 species of warbler were reported in Fall 2000, and 28 species of warbler were reported in Fall 2001. Blackpoll Warbler and Swainson's Warbler occurred on the statewide tally for this fall's count, but Golden-winged Warbler, Orange-crowned Warbler, and Canada Warbler were not found in fall 2001, as they had been last year.

Continued monitoring of a trend noted in the spring 2001 summary finds that numbers of Common Yellowthroat are down on this fall's count. 262 Common Yellowthroats were counted in fall 2000. For fall 2001, 102 individuals were counted, a drop of 61.1%. While Common Yellowthroat was reported from all counties, two counties (Colleton and Kershaw) tallied well over half of all the Common Yellowthroats reported.

Numbers of Common Ground-Dove also declined on this fall's count. Last year 38 individuals from two counties (Georgetown and Jasper) were reported. This year, 2 individuals were reported from only one county, Georgetown. This species grows increasingly difficult to find in South Carolina.

Sparrow diversity increased by one species for the Fall 2001 Count, adding Savannah Sparrow and Grasshopper Sparrow to this year's count. Bachman's Sparrow, occurring on the statewide tally in fall 2000, was not found in fall 2001.

Among the widespread species reported from every county (except Calhoun, where coverage was limited to an hour) were Turkey Vulture, Mourning Dove, Blue Jay, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Northern Mockingbird, White-eyed Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Common Yellowthroat, and Northern Cardinal. Mourning Dove was the most numerous of the widespread species, followed by Northern Cardinal.

Among the highlights of the Fall 2001 North American Migration Count are American White Pelican in Colleton County, Upland Sandpiper from Kershaw County, Black-billed Cuckoo in Dorchester County, Philadelphia Vireo from Lexington County, Purple Finch in Spartanburg County, Red Crossbill in Oconee County, and Dickcissel from Hampton County. 46 species were "exclusives," found only in one county. The exclusives are distributed as follows:

Aiken: 5	Georgetown: 14	Lexington: 1	Spartanburg: 3
Colleton: 10	Hampton: 1	Oconee: 5	
Dorchester: 2	Kershaw: 4	Richland: 1	

County Summaries

Aiken County (AIKE): 107 species, 2,739 individuals. 60° F to 78° F.
Start Time: 5:50 AM Stop Time: 8:50 PM
Coordinator: Anne Waters
1621 Apple Valley Drive
Augusta, GA 30906
706-793-2788

Participants: Paula Austin, Dan Connelly, Gary Gray, Nancy Greco, Judy Gregory, Gene Howard, Joan Howard, Christine Huzella, Sandra Johnson, James Keener, Paul Koehler, George Reeves, Alice Walker, Doug Walker, Vernon Waters, Calvin Zippler

While Aiken County always reports a nice selection of warblers, this fall's count was a banner year. Aiken County tallied 19 of the 28 species of warbler found statewide. Several of these were exclusives: Blue-winged Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, and Yellow-breasted Chat.

Calhoun County (CALH): 9 species, 17 individuals. Temperatures not reported.
Start Time: 8:00 AM Stop Time: 9:00 AM
Coordinator: Tim Kalbach
159A Villas Court
West Columbia, SC 29170
803-808-7589

Participants: Tim Kalbach

Calhoun County reported a nice selection of songbird migrants, including Black-throated Blue Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, and Scarlet Tanager. Calhoun County also reported Swainson's Warbler, possibly a local breeder at the surveyed locale, Congaree Bluff Heritage Preserve.

Cherokee County (CHER): 63 species, 905 individuals. 55° F to 71° F.
Start and stop times not reported
Coordinator: Lyle Campbell
126 Greengate Lane
Spartanburg, SC 29307
864-585-1228

Participants: Ken Garrett, J.B. Hines, Karla Lavender, Scott Lavender, Alan Rose, Ed Wilde

Cherokee County reported a nice Horned Lark and excellent numbers of Wild Turkey, as well as a nice pair of migrant warblers, Chestnut-sided Warbler and Magnolia Warbler.

Colleton County (COLL): 100 species, 2535 individuals. 60° F to 72°F.
Start Time: 7:25 AM Stop Time: 6:30 PM
Coordinator: Sharon Brown
PO Box 327
Adams Run, SC 29426
843-889-8299

Participants: Mrs. M. A. Aldenderfer, Van Atkins, Pete Laurie, Susan McConnel, Tuck McConnel, Bob Seigler, Liz Smylie

Some of the species found in a pocket of warbler fallout in Colleton County were Tennessee Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, and Northern Waterthrush, as well as more regularly occurring species, such as Magnolia Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, and early Palm Warblers.

Dorchester County (DORC): 85 species, 1257 individuals. Temperatures not reported.
Start Time: 8:00 AM Stop Time: 5:30 PM
Coordinator: Dennis Forsythe
748 Swanson Avenue
James Island, SC 29412
843-798-3996

Participants: Donna Forsythe, Tom Burst, Margo McMicken, Ann Shahid, Susan Simmons, Jean Wattley

Black-billed Cuckoo, Least Sandpiper, Dunlin, and Swainson's Warbler were nice to find in Dorchester County. Dorchester also reported good numbers of White Ibis and Red-headed Woodpecker.

Fairfield County (FAIR): 66 species, 565 individuals. 60° F to 75° F.
Start Time: 4:30 AM Stop Time: 7:00 PM
Coordinator: Donna Slyce Bailey
550 Pin Oak Drive
Lexington, SC 29073
803-996-0960

Participants: Bob Ellis, Kathleen O'Grady

One of two counties reporting winds of Beaufort scale 5, Fairfield was slow for songbirds, but the raptor count was better than average. With the exception of accipiters, Fairfield recorded every regularly occurring raptor, from Osprey to American Kestrel. Fairfield also reported Caspian Tern, only a third county record.

Georgetown County (GEOR): 85 species, 716 individuals. 65° F to 78° F.
Start Time: 7:30 AM Stop Time: 5:30 PM
Coordinator: Jack Peachey
103 Walnut Circle
Conway, SC 29520
843-347-5810

Participants: Wendy Allen, Charles Heacock

Along with the previously mentioned Common Ground-Dove, among the species exclusive to Georgetown County were Reddish Egret, American Oystercatcher, Great Black-backed Gull, Black Skimmer, Louisiana Waterthrush, and Cape May Warbler.

Hampton County (HAMP): 45 species, 581 individuals. 61° F to 80° F.
Start Time: 7:05 AM Stop Time: 4:05 PM
Coordinator: Carroll Richard
P.O. Box 893
Hampton, SC 29924
803-943-4661

Participants: David Breland, Karen Breland

Hampton County reported an excellent bird for count day, a Dickcissel, a species exclusive to Hampton County, as well as nice-to-find Yellow Warbler and early Yellow-rumped Warbler.

Kershaw County (KERS): 108 species, 2047 individuals. 62° F to 84° F.
Start Time: 5:00 AM Stop Time: 7:30 PM
Coordinator: Lex Glover
PO Box 117
Lugoff, SC 29078
803-438-9855

Participants: Lex Glover

As a result of surveying several areas that have historically hosted long-legged waders and shorebirds that are interesting because of the far inland location, Kershaw County tallied Snowy Egret, Little Blue Heron, White Ibis, Upland Sandpiper, and Least Sandpiper.

Lexington County (LEXI): 65 species, 1201 individuals. 69° F to 89° F.
Start Time: 7:00 AM Stop Time: 8:00 PM
Coordinator: Molly Bonnell
202 Cannon Trail Road
Lexington, SC 29072
803-359-6280

Participants: Andrea Ceselski, Barbara Darden, Jerry Griggs

Lexington County reported the previously mentioned Philadelphia Vireo, always nice to find in the state and exclusive to Lexington County for this count, as well as migrant Scarlet Tanager.

Oconee County (OCON): 65 species, 573 individuals. 50°' F to 78° F.
Start Time: 6:40 AM Stop Time: 6:20 PM
Coordinator: Steve Wagner
316 E. Creswell
Greenwood, SC 29646
864-223-0416

Participants: Carroll Belser, Michael Childress, Don Cox, Steve Cox, Vicki Cox, Jennifer Dever, Sid Gauthreaux, Michelle Kittell, Drew Lanham, Larry LeCroy, Steve Patterson, Margaret Ptacek

Accumulating the usual good number of exclusives, Oconee County reported Red-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Blue-headed Vireo, Dark-eyed Junco, and the previously mentioned Red Crossbill. Oconee County also reported a nice number of the "mountain" warblers, including Tennessee Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, and Blackburnian Warbler.

Richland County (RICH): 53 species, 3150 individuals. 56° F to 76° F.
Start Time: 5:30 AM Stop Time: 8:30 PM
Coordinator: Robin Carter
4165 E. Buchanan Drive
Columbia, SC 29206
803-788-8820

Participants: Caroline Eastman, Ida Frueh, Paul Frueh, Lloyd Moon, Roger Thorndike

The species exclusive to Richland County was Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, a distinctly uncommon migrant. Richland also reported Blackburnian Warbler and Magnolia Warbler, a pair of nice-to-find species, among the migrant

warblers. Richland County was also one of only three counties reporting Common Nighthawk, along with Spartanburg and Cherokee Counties

Spartanburg County (SPAR): 93 species, 2282 individuals. 55° F to 71° F. Start and stop times not reported
Coordinator: Lyle Campbell
126 Greengate Lane
Spartanburg, SC 29307
864-585-1228

Participants: Debbie Allman, Frankie Altman, Chris Anderson, Laura Bannon, Beth Bartel, Frank Bartel, Anna Bennett, Susan Bennett, Tim Brown, Sarah Campbell, Dan Codispoti, Linda Deahl, Glenn Englehardt, Roy Fowler, Pat Fowler, Ron Gahagan, Onoosh Gahagan, Robin Gilman, John Green, Betty Howard, Jessie Ivy, Connie Jenne, Ron Jenne, Joel Jones, Micky Marotte, Angela Miller, Mike Miller, Jim Miller, Margaret Miller, Bill Moody, Virl Momier, Ken Pearson, Lisa Pearson, Bob Powell, Doug Rayner, Ginny Scott, Walton Scott, Mac Shealy, Dick Thorpe, Lois Thorpe, Gerald Thurmond, Dan Wooten, Nancy Wooten

Spartanburg tallied a diverse selection of songbirds, including Tennessee Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, and Purple Finch. Purple Finch was one of the species exclusive to Spartanburg County. Spartanburg County reported the highest number of Wild Turkey in the state, recording 64 birds.

Carolinabirds

Carolinabirds is an Internet e-mail discussion group about birds and birding in the Carolinas. Subscribers frequently post sightings to it similar to those found in Briefs for the Files, but unusual behavior receives more attention. Subscriptions are free. To subscribe, address an e-mail message to <majordomo@duke.edu>. Don't fill in the subject line. As your message, simply put, "subscribe carolinabirds" (without the quotes). You will receive a confirmation and more information shortly. Submissions for Briefs for the Files should be sent directly to Ricky Davis.

North American Migration Count
South Carolina

15 September 2001	AIKE	CALH	CHER	COLL	DORC	FAIR	GEOR	HAMP	KERS	LEXI	OCON	RICH	SPAR	TOTAL Individuals	# Counties Reporting Species
Common Loon									1					1	1
Pied-billed Grebe			1	4		2	5		2		1			15	6
American White Pelican				4										4	1
Brown Pelican				49			3							52	2
Double-crested Cormorant	1			4		6	8		6	1				26	6
Anhinga	4			21	1			2	4	1				33	6
Least Bittern				1										1	1
Great Blue Heron	6		1	26	1	11	3	3	64	6	4		10	135	11
Great Egret	8			252	5	25	23	156	43	1	15		3	531	10
Snowy Egret				29	2		26	12	52					121	5
Little Blue Heron	3			8	1		14	1	8					35	6
Tricolored Heron				16			6							22	2
Reddish Egret							1							1	1
Cattle Egret	57			78	25				94	9				263	5
Green Heron	8			5		1	2		1		2	1	5	25	8
Black-crowned Night-Heron				2										2	1
White Ibis				204	95		13		30					342	4
Glossy Ibis				5			3							8	2
Wood Stork	2			28	1		41	8						80	5
Canada Goose	141		86		21				1	2	48		255	554	7
Wood Duck	13		5			2			14	4	3		4	45	7
Mottled Duck				2										2	1
Mallard	26				38			6		8			82	160	5
Northern Pintail	9													9	1
Blue-winged Teal							3							3	1
Black Vulture	33		16	30	40	41		69	38	13	7	1	6	294	11

15 September 2001	AIKE	CALH	CHER	COLL	DORC	FAIR	GEOR	HAMP	KERS	LEXI	OCON	RICH	SPAR	TOTAL Individuals	# Counties Reporting Species
Turkey Vulture	48		12	62	18	46	10	39	56	32	27	4	22	376	12
Osprey	1			6	1	3	4		4		3		1	23	8
Bald Eagle	1			6		3	2	4	3					19	6
Northern Harrier	1			2		1	1							5	4
Sharp-shinned Hawk				1	2				3	1	1		2	10	6
Cooper's Hawk		1	1						1					3	3
accipiter sp.									1					1	1
Red-shouldered Hawk	11		1	3	18	2			1			1	3	40	8
Broad-winged Hawk						1					59	1		61	3
Red-tailed Hawk	3		7	2	5	2			6	5	3		8	41	9
American Kestrel	6		1	8	14	4		3	5	1			2	44	9
Peregrine Falcon	2													2	1
Wild Turkey	19		14		3	1	1		2				64	104	7
Northern Bobwhite	12				1	2			1	1			6	23	6
Clapper Rail				1			10							11	2
Common Moorhen	1			19			2	32						54	4
Black-bellied Plover							11							11	1
Semipalmated Plover	1			14			7							22	3
Piping Plover				1										1	1
Killdeer	53		10		35	2	1		18	2	11	1	20	153	10
American Oystercatcher							4							4	1
Greater Yellowlegs	8			2			8		1					19	4
Lesser Yellowlegs				3	1									4	2
Solitary Sandpiper									2					2	1
Willet							16							16	1
Spotted Sandpiper	1						6		3	1			1	12	5
Upland Sandpiper									4					4	1
Marbled Godwit							1							1	1
Ruddy Turnstone				10			8							18	2
Sanderling				166			6							172	2

15 September 2001	AIKE	CALH	CHER	COLL	DORC	FAIR	GEOR	HAMP	KERS	LEXI	OCON	RICH	SPAR	TOTAL Individuals	# Counties Reporting Species
Semipalmated Sandpiper							2							2	1
Western Sandpiper	2			9			2							13	3
Least Sandpiper	79				1		2		18					100	4
peep sp.				2										2	1
Dunlin					12									12	1
Short-billed Dowitcher							63							63	1
dowitcher sp.							7							7	1
Common Snipe									2					2	1
Laughing Gull				367			41							408	2
Bonaparte's Gull				3										3	1
Ring-billed Gull				18			3		2					23	3
Herring Gull				43			7							50	2
Great Black-backed Gull							1							1	1
Gull-billed Tern				3										3	1
Caspian Tern				8		2	12	1						23	4
Royal Tern				53			20							73	2
Sandwich Tern				3			4							7	2
Forster's Tern				7			10							17	2
Black Tern				1										1	1
Black Skimmer							6							6	1
Rock Dove	17			12	16	2		25	102	100	2	89	53	418	10
Eurasian Collared Dove				5					9			1		15	3
Mourning Dove	105		47	17	81	16	4	44	84	107	56	15	98	674	12
Common Ground-Dove							2							2	1
Black-billed Cuckoo					1									1	1
Yellow-billed Cuckoo					1	2			1	1			2	7	5
Eastern Screech-Owl	7					1			2		1	1	1	13	6
Great Horned Owl									3				1	4	2
Barred Owl	1			1	2	2			4	1			2	13	7
Common Nighthawk			3									9	3	15	3

15 September 2001	AIKE	CALH	CHER	COLL	DORC	FAIR	GEOR	HAMP	KERS	LEXI	OCON	RICH	SPAR	TOTAL Individuals	# Counties Reporting Species
Whip-poor-will			1						1					2	2
Chimney Swift	100				28	13	3	1	140	140	9	2200	58	2692	10
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	13		4	1	6	5		4	5	9	6		67	120	10
Belted Kingfisher	4		1	1		3	3		2	2	7		15	38	9
Red-headed Woodpecker	13			2	10	2		5	1			4	1	38	8
Red-bellied Woodpecker	37		4	13	8	3	3		4	16		7	26	121	10
Downy Woodpecker	15		8	10	6	7	2		3	3	5	3	23	85	11
Hairy Woodpecker	1				2						2		3	8	4
Red-cockaded Woodpecker					1				2					3	2
Northern Flicker	2		1	2				1	6	1		2	2	17	8
Pileated Woodpecker	18		1	4	5	2	1		1	5	2	1	5	45	11
Eastern Wood-Pewee	18		4	6	1		1		1	8	3	7	8	57	10
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher												1		1	1
Acadian Flycatcher	2											1		3	2
Eastern Phoebe			1		2	4			4		7		35	53	6
Great Crested Flycatcher	3		1	1	1		1				1	1	2	11	8
Eastern Kingbird					2				11	1				14	3
Horned Lark			1						4					5	2
Purple Martin													15	15	1
Tree Swallow	12			69	8		8			11				108	5
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	72	8				1			30					111	4
Bank Swallow					5				20					25	2
Barn Swallow	111			7	11			30	120					279	5
Blue Jay	58		43	7	7	19	16	1	41	38	4	19	79	332	12
American Crow	160		114	117	119	31		23	93	66	18	14	142	897	11
Fish Crow	1		2	26	40	3								72	5
crow sp.						20	1	7	2					30	4
Carolina Chickadee	104		15	49	22	21	14	1	25	48	29	23	74	425	12
Tufted Titmouse	107		18	38	17	19	14	3	34	37	13	10	84	394	12
Red-breasted Nuthatch											10			10	1

15 September 2001	AIKE	CALH	CHER	COLL	DORC	FAIR	GEOR	HAMP	KERS	LEXI	OCON	RICH	SPAR	TOTAL Individuals	# Counties Reporting Species
White-breasted Nuthatch	20			4	4		1		1		6	2	4	42	8
Brown-headed Nuthatch	54		3	7	3	5	13		40	9	1	11	18	164	11
Brown Creeper											2			2	1
Carolina Wren	74		16	20	16	5	8		44	35	13	22	54	307	11
House Wren					1	1			1	1		1	2	7	6
Marsh Wren				1										1	1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	7				1								3	11	3
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	5			12	4	2	1		8	8	1		5	46	9
Eastern Bluebird	48		15	2	6	2		5	21	44	13	4	113	273	11
Veery	3				1	2			1			2	1	10	6
Gray-cheeked Thrush	1					1								2	2
Swainson's Thrush	1			2		1			2			2		8	5
Hermit Thrush	3			1										4	2
Wood Thrush	1				1								2	4	3
American Robin	18		50		1	1			30	4		3	130	237	8
Gray Catbird	8		3		9		2		3	1	1		12	39	8
Northern Mockingbird	39		31	8	44	9	5	8	29	59	4	15	65	316	12
Brown Thrasher	12		1	1	2		1		10	8		1	24	60	9
Loggerhead Shrike	6		1		4			4	14	2			2	33	7
European Starling	335		174	47		50		3	177	88	73	13	42	1002	10
White-eyed Vireo	20		1	17	11	1	7	2	9	2	2	10	4	86	12
Blue-headed Vireo											6			6	1
Yellow-throated Vireo	2				4					2			1	9	4
Philadelphia Vireo										3				3	1
Red-eyed Vireo	18		3	7	8	2	4	1	21	4	6	4	3	81	12
Blue-winged Warbler	1													1	1
Tennessee Warbler				1							3		3	7	3
Nashville Warbler				1									1	2	2
Northern Parula	39	1		9	1	1		7	10		5	3	5	81	10
Yellow Warbler	1							1					1	3	3

15 September 2001	AIKE	CALH	CHER	COLL	DORC	FAIR	GEOR	HAMP	KERS	LEXI	OCON	RICH	SPAR	TOTAL Individuals	# Counties Reporting Species
Chestnut-sided Warbler	7	1	5						3	1	3		14	34	7
Magnolia Warbler	4		4	1		1			5		1	1	10	27	8
Cape May Warbler							1							1	1
Black-throated Blue Warbler	2	1		2									1	6	4
Yellow-rumped Warbler	1							1					3	5	3
Black-throated Green Warbler	1								7		4			12	3
Blackburnian Warbler											1	1	2	4	3
Yellow-throated Warbler	1						2			1	1		1	6	5
Pine Warbler	72		5	26	3	6	3		26	12	7	12	18	190	11
Prairie Warbler	13				1		2		1				3	20	5
Palm Warbler	2		3	3			1		6				5	20	6
Blackpoll Warbler				2										2	1
Black-and-white Warbler	5	1	3	1	3		5		7	5	1	2	4	37	11
American Redstart	44	2	4	35	5	2	6	2	4	10		2	37	153	12
Prothonotary Warbler	1							1						2	2
Worm-eating Warbler	1													1	1
Swainson's Warbler		1			1									2	2
Ovenbird									3		2			5	2
Northern Waterthrush				5			1		1					7	3
Louisiana Waterthrush							1							1	1
Common Yellowthroat	8		2	37	6	2	6	2	22	3	4	1	9	102	12
Hooded Warbler	4				1				1		5		1	12	5
Yellow-breasted Chat	1													1	1
Summer Tanager	13			6	4	2			10	4	2	2	3	46	9
Scarlet Tanager	2	1	1						2	2	1		1	10	7
Northern Cardinal	113		29	27	42	37	10	9	49	79	10	48	115	568	12
Rose-breasted Grosbeak									2		2		1	5	3
Blue Grosbeak	5				2	4			1					12	4
Indigo Bunting	32			1	1	12		2	2			3	4	57	8
Painted Bunting							3	1	1					5	3

15 September 2001	AIKE	CALH	CHER	COLL	DORC	FAIR	GEOR	HAMP	KERS	LEXI	OCON	RICH	SPAR	TOTAL Individuals	# Counties Reporting Species
Dickcissel								1						1	1
Eastern Towhee	35		1	19	4	1			18	2	1	9	17	107	10
Chipping Sparrow			12	16					4	2			10	44	5
Field Sparrow	2		5			7			2				9	25	5
Savannah Sparrow			1				3							4	2
Grasshopper Sparrow													1	1	1
Seaside Sparrow							3							3	1
Song Sparrow			1								1		7	9	3
Dark-eyed Junco											1			1	1
Red-winged Blackbird	7			102	20		3		35				3	170	6
Eastern Meadowlark	18		15						2				6	41	4
Boat-tailed Grackle				53	51		19	6						129	4
Common Grackle	6		40	4	15	1		2	60	59	15	475	29	706	11
Brown-headed Cowbird	1		24	50	200	50			26	8				359	7
Baltimore Oriole								2	5					7	2
Purple Finch													5	5	1
House Finch	27		13		22	3		17	26	50		7	92	257	9
Red Crossbill											2			2	1
American Goldfinch	12		8		1	20			29	4	9	1	71	155	9
House Sparrow	42		5		11			23	16	7	5	76	12	197	9
Sterna sp.?							100							100	1
Hummingbird sp?							3							3	1
Empidonax sp?			1	4		1			4					10	4
warbler sp?				22										22	1
														TOTALS	
Species	107	9	63	100	85	66	85	45	108	65	65	53	93	194	
Individuals	2739	17	905	2535	1257	565	716	581	2047	1201	573	3150	2282	18568	

15 September 2001	AIKE	CALH	CHER	COLL	DORC	FAIR	GEOR	HAMP	KERS	LEXI	OCON	RICH	SPAR	TOTAL Individuals	# Counties Reporting Species
Observers	17	1	6	4	7	3	3	1	1	4	13	6	45	111	
Parties	13	1	5	7	4	2	2	1	1	3	1	2	32	74	
#Counties	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	
Hours foot	47.5	1	19.5	10.3	2	5.5	10.8	4.5	4	6.5	6.5	8.5	42	168.5	
Hours car	15	0	8.5	4	7.5	9	2.75	4.5	7.5	9	5	1	9.5	83.25	
Hours boat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.5	2.5	
Hours canoe/kayak	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	
Hours other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Miles foot	27.3	2	19.5	5.25	4	8	8	3	3	9	4	5	27.8	125.75	
Miles car	138	0	124	88.8	215	240	25	127	162	240	122	38	219	1738.8	
Miles boat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	8	
Miles canoe/kayak	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	
Miles other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Hours Feeder Watch	5.5	0	4	0	8.5	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	59.5	81.5	
#Feeder Watchers	5	0	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	27	39	
#Feeder Stations	11	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	15	31	
Hours Stationary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
#Parties Stationary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
#Observers Stationary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Hours Owling	3	0	1.5	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	1.5	2	12	
Miles Owling	30	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	21	0	0	4	2	59	
#parties owling	3	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	3	11	
#observers owling	5	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	4	16	

15 September 2001	AIKE	CALH	CHER	COLL	DORC	FAIR	GEOR	HAMP	KERS	LEXI	OCON	RICH	SPAR	TOTAL Individuals	# Counties Reporting Species
TEMPERATURE: PRE-DAWN	60	-	62	-	-	61	-	-	-	-	-	58	62		
DAWN	60	-	55	60	-	60	-	61	62	69	50	56	55		
AM	62	-	60	62	-	65	65	69	-	75	56	62	60		
NOON	70	-	64	66	-	71	-	78	-	89	58	73	64		
PM	76	-	71	72	-	75	78	80	84	89	78	76	71		
SUNSET	78	-	67	70	-	66	-	-	-	82	76	74	62		
NIGHT	67	-	57	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	72	57		
WIND: PRE-DAWN	3	-	3	-	4	5	-	-	-	-	-	2	3		
DAWN	3	-	3	3	4	4	-	3	3	-	2	3	3		
AM	4	-	4	4	4	4	4 - 5	3	-	-	2	3	4		
NOON	3	-	5	3	4	4	-	3	-	-	2	3	4		
PM	3	-	3	3	4	4	4 - 5	3	3	-	2	2	3		
SUNSET	3	-	2	3	4	4	-	-	-	-	2	2	2		
NIGHT	2	-	2	-	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	2	2		
%CLOUDS: PRE-DAWN	40	-	10	-	-	50	-	-	-	-	-	70	10		
DAWN	75	-	10	90	-	0	-	10	-	-	0	70	10		
AM	5	-	10	90	-	0	35	50	-	-	0	80	10		
NOON	20	-	10	70	-	0	-	50	-	-	0	50	10		
PM	20	-	10	50	-	0	20	50	-	-	10	40	10		
SUNSET	25	-	10	40	-	0	-	-	-	-	10	50	10		
NIGHT	5	-	10	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	-	60	10		
PRECIPITATION: PRE-DAWN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0		
DAWN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0		
AM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0		
NOON	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0		
PM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0		
SUNSET	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0		
NIGHT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0		

Will Cook
North Carolina Editor
PO Box 3066
Durham, NC 27715
cwcook@acpub.duke.edu

Dennis M. Forsythe
South Carolina Editor
Department of Biology
The Citadel
Charleston, SC 29409
forsythed@citadel.edu
(843) 953-7264
Fax: (803) 953-7084

First Record of Common Murre in North Carolina

John Dole
1502 Miriam Ave.
Garner, NC 27529
john_dole@ncsu.edu

On the afternoon of 2 February 2001 I noticed a dark bird swimming on the ocean off the shore of Cape Hatteras Point, Dare County, North Carolina. As the bird came into view through my binoculars, it dove with wings partially extended. Recognizing that it was an alcid, I continued to watch, hoping to see the bird as it reappeared on the surface. Over the next five minutes the bird surfaced several times, only to dive within moments. The short amount of time on the surface and the deep waves prevented a clear view. The bird was feeding with an actively foraging flock of Bonaparte's Gulls *(Larus philadelphia)* 50 to 60 meters offshore. The bird was dark above and approximately 25% longer than the accompanying Bonaparte's Gulls.

At this time, approximately 3:45 pm, I excitedly flagged down Patricia and Russ Tyndall, who were also birding at Cape Hatteras. With three sets of binoculars and scopes on the bird we were able to determine that the bird was a Common Murre (*Uria aalge*) in basic plumage.

The bird had a dark crown, nape, back of neck, back, and wings. The underparts were white from the throat to the vent. The sides of the face were white behind and below the eye with a long, dark post-ocular stripe. The stripe extended almost as far back from the eye as the distance from the eye to tip of the bill. The bill was long, solid back, relatively thin and tapered to a point. The secondaries were faintly tipped in white.

As the afternoon progressed the bird began to dive less frequently and became much easier to view through spotting scopes. It continued to associate with the Bonaparte's Gulls, which allowed us to keep track of the bird whenever

Figure 1. Common Murre at Cape Hatteras Point. Photo by Patricia Tyndall, February 2, 2001.

it dove and was not visible. At this time the bird was 150 to 200 meters east of the point and 40 to 50 meters offshore at its closest point to the shore. Other birders in the area were contacted and began to show up in the area at around 4:30 pm. In addition to the Tyndalls and me, approximately seven other people were able to see the bird Friday afternoon. By dusk the bird had moved approximately 100 meters farther to the east than when it was first spotted. In addition to the murre and Bonaparte's Gulls, a Little Gull (*Larus minutus*) foraged with the flock for a few moments.

The next day, 3 February, the murre was seen briefly in the morning and later in the afternoon. From approximately 4:30 to 5:00 pm the bird was seen by numerous birders aboard a Brian Patteson pelagic trip. The morning sightings were in the same general area as the 2 February sightings, but the afternoon sightings were out farther from shore. The bird was not seen on 4 February despite active searching all day and was apparently not seen again.

The bird was determined to be a Common Murre primarily due to the long, post ocular eyestripe, narrow, tapered bill, and size relative to the Bonaparte's Gulls. The Thick-billed Murre (*Uria lomvia*) in basic plumage is most similar to the Common Murre but has a completely dark face, thicker bill base, and often a white line on the lower edge of the upper mandible (Harrison 1983).

Thick-billed Murre has been documented 9-10 times in North Carolina coastal waters from 9 December to 28 February (R. Davis, pers. comm.; Lee 1995).

Despite the moniker 'Common,' the Common Murre is the rarer of the two murre species along the east coast of the United States. Thick-billed Murre is the "expected" murre as one goes south along the coast and has been recorded as far south as Florida (Stevenson and Anderson 1994). Hybrids between Common and Thick-billed Murre have been documented and exhibit characteristics of both species (Gaston and Hipfner 2000). However, the bird observed on 2-3 February is probably not a hybrid because it did not exhibit any characteristics of Thick-billed Murre. Common Murres typically winter at sea but, as with other alcids, are occasionally seen from shore.

The Razorbill (*Alca torda*) is the most frequently observed alcid in North Carolina waters but has a thicker bill and neck in basic plumage than the Common Murre and has a predominantly dark face. Razorbills have been recorded in North Carolina primarily from mid-November through mid-February. Numerous birds are often seen on winter pelagic trips off the coast of North Carolina.

The age of the North Carolina bird may not be determinable due to confusion among informational sources. Harrison (1983) indicates that first winter birds have mostly dark ear-coverts and do not have post-ocular eyestripes, and Gaston and Jones (1998) indicate that first-winter birds have the white streak behind the eye obscured. However, Cramp (1985) and Svensson *et al.*, (1999) indicate that first winter birds have post-ocular eyestripes as with adults. Svensson *et al.* (1999) and Gaston and Jones (1998) also note that adult northern European Common Murres molt into breeding plumage (November-February) earlier than first-winter birds, but Gaston and Jones (1998) indicate that adult birds may not molt until March in the northwestern Atlantic (Newfoundland). Unfortunately, the presence of basic plumage is not useful in determining the age of the North Carolina bird due to overlap in molting times among adult and first winter birds. All sources agree that first-winter birds have shorter bills than adult birds (Cramp 1985; Gaston and Jones, 1998; Harrison, 1983; Svensson *et al.*, 1999).

Five subspecies of Common Murre have been described, but only one subspecies is considered to be separable at sea, *U. a. albionis* of the northeast Atlantic (Harrison 1983). While the North Carolina bird was probably *U. a. aalge*, the only subspecies to breed in the northwest Atlantic, we were not able to determine the subspecies of the bird.

This report and a photograph by Patricia Tyndall were submitted to the North Carolina Bird Records Committee. The Committee has accepted the photo and description, placing the species on the Official List (North Carolina Bird Records Committee 2002). This sighting represents the last alcid species that regularly breeds on the Atlantic North American coast to be documented in North Carolina (Davis 1999; Davis and Carter 1996; Galizio *et al.* 1998; LeGrand and Dias 1995; Potter *et al.* 1980).

The Common Murre has been reported as far south as Florida, where it is listed as hypothetical (Stevenson and Anderson 1994). South Carolina's only

Common Murre record was noted on 17 January 1995 (South Carolina Bird Records Committee 1996). Even as far north as New Jersey the Common Murre is listed as an 'extremely rare ... winter visitant along the coast and offshore,' according to Leck (1984). Virginia has one accepted record, from 13 February 1994 (C. Friend, pers. comm.). Maryland's first record occurred on 12 March 1994, and the state has had at least three accepted records since then (P. Davis, pers. comm.).

I thank Patricia and Russ Tyndall and Ricky Davis for reviewing this manuscript and Patricia Tyndall for her photograph of the Common Murre.

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Two White Swainson's Warbler Nestlings Banded in South Carolina

Stanlee M. Miller
132 Long Hall
Department of Biological Sciences
Clemson University
Clemson, SC 29634-0326
864-656-3456 work
smmll@clemson.edu
864-656-0435 fax

On 5 July 2000, two incomplete albinistic Swainson's Warbler (*Limnothlypis swainsonii*) nestlings were banded and photographed in the Franklin L. Gravely Wildlife Management Area, western Pickens County, South Carolina (35°02'N, 082°50'W). I refer to this occurrence as incomplete albinism because while the nestlings' feathers were white, their eyes were normal colored and not red as in total albinism (Gross, 1965). A similar case where two Alder Flycatchers (*Empidonax alnorum*) of "normal" appearance produced a brood of two "normal" and two white feathered nestlings with normal colored eyes was reported near Dixboro, Michigan (Berger, 1954).

On 8 June 2000 (08:30 h EST) a Swainson's Warbler nest was found complete, lined and empty. It was about 2.1 m high in a small (<1 cm diameter at breast height) eastern hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*) growing under the branches of a large (>10 cm dbh) rhododendron (*Rhododendron maximum*), in a site dominated by second growth (25 to 30 m in height) yellow poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*). The nest tree was about 20 m from an unnamed mountain stream of about 1 m in width and 2 to 3 cm in depth.

On 14 June (09:30 h) the nest contained four eggs. On 28 June (10:40 h) three of the four eggs had hatched. On this date, I also observed one nestling was larger than the other two and one of the two smaller hatchlings had what looked like a "mop" of long, white, neossoptiles attached to the top of its head. The comparison was striking, since in the gloominess of the habitat and the shadow of the nest rim the neossoptiles of the normally colored nestlings were invisible.

On 30 June (10:50 h) an adult male was captured in a mist net erected about 7 m from the nest, and color leg-bands (striped/blue) were applied along with a uniquely numbered stainless steel leg-band. The other adult was not flushed from the nest and was still brooding when I left the area.

On 5 July (09:03 h), I returned to the nest with a Nikon N60 camera with a Mini Zoom Macro 28-80 Sigma Lens. I removed the four nestlings from the nest, applied a uniquely numbered stainless steel leg-band to each, placed the

Figure 1. Two white and one normally colored Swainson's Warbler nestlings of 6 or 7 days of age. 05 July 2000. Photo by Stanlee Miller.

nestlings on a folded piece of white felt cloth, and attempted to photograph them (Figure 1). But one of the "normal-colored" nestling kept trying to run away and was not photographed. This same nestling repeatedly jumped out of the nest, while the other three nestlings settled quietly back into the nest cup when returned.

Also on this date, I captured the adult female in a mist net erected about 3 m from the nest and color leg-bands (pink/striped) and a uniquely numbered stainless steel leg-band were applied. Afterwards, I watched the nest site for two hours and observed that the male (ST/B) continued to bring food to the three nestlings in the nest, while the female (P/ST) only brought food to the nestling on the ground.

On 7 July (08:34 h) three of the nestlings, including both of the white ones, were still in the nest. The grounded nestling was not seen, but the female was seen doing the wing and tail drag distraction display (Graves, 1992) about 10 m west of the nest.

On 10 July (09:00 h), the thirteenth day after hatching, the nest was empty, and no fledglings were seen. There was no way to determine the fate of the nestlings, but fledging usually occurs 10 d to 12 d after hatching, in this species (Sims and DeGarmo, 1948) (Meanley, 1971).

Between 9 May and 11 June 2001, the same male (ST/B) and a new female (striped/yellow) reared four "normal" colored warblers in a nest built about 20 m south of last year's nest. Last year's female (P/ST) was not seen.

Acknowledgments

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Birds of the Carolinas Student Research Grants Program

The Carolina Bird Club's Birds of the Carolinas Research Grants Program provides funding for undergraduate and graduate students in North Carolina and South Carolina. The program is funded through the generosity of the authors of *Birds of the Carolinas* (Eloise F. Potter, James F. Parnell, and Robert P. Teulings). Application deadlines and other details will be announced via mail to North Carolina and South Carolina institutions and on the Carolina Bird Club web site.

BRIEFS FOR THE FILES

Ricky Davis
608 Smallwood Drive
Rocky Mount, NC 27804
RJDNC@aol.com

All Dates Fall 2001

Briefs for the Files is a seasonal collection of uncommon-to-rare or unusual North and South Carolina bird sightings and events which do not necessarily require a more detailed Field Note or article. Reports of your sightings are due the 20th of the month after the end of the previous season.

Winter = December 1 - February 28, due March 20
Spring = March 1 - May 31, due June 20
Summer = June 1 - July 31, due August 20
Fall = August 1 - November 30, due December 20

Reports can be submitted in any format, but I prefer that you type them and list the sightings according to the birds in checklist order (not according to dates or locations). If you submit your report to me through e-mail, please type your report directly into the message or copy it from a word processing program directly into the message. You may also attach your file to the e-mail, but if you do, please let me know the program used and also send a second version saved as a text (txt.) file.

Suitable reports for the Briefs include any sightings you feel are unusual, rare, noteworthy, or just plain interesting to you in any way! It is my responsibility to decide which reports merit inclusion in the Briefs.

Please be sure to include details of any rare or hard-to-identify birds.

I rely in part on sightings reported in Carolinabirds. Please don't, however, rely on me to pick up your sightings from Carolinabirds. Instead, please also send your sightings directly to me as described above.

If I feel that your sighting warrants a Field Note, I will contact either you or the appropriate state Field Notes editor. You may, of course, submit your Field Note directly to the editor without going through me.

RED-THROATED LOON: Only one was found inland this fall, at Jordan Lake, NC, Nov. 10 (Doug Shadwick *et al.*).

PACIFIC LOON: This species was once again found at Figure Eight Is., NC. Birds were present Nov. 18-25, with an impressive peak of three on the 24th (Derb Carter *et al.*).

COMMON LOON: One at Ocracoke, NC, Sept. 13 was considered to be rather early for a fall migrant (Royce Hough).

RED-NECKED GREBE: One at Falls Lake, NC, Oct. 31 was not only locally rare but was also somewhat early (Brian Bockhahn).
EARED GREBE: The peak count at the Jacksonville, NC Wastewater Treatment Plant was seven on Oct. 12, as noted by John Fussell. Elsewhere good finds were the four Eareds at the C. Hatteras Point salt pond Nov. 10 (Rich & Susan Boyd) and the single on North Pond, Pea Island N.W.R., NC, Oct. 27-30 (Jeff Lewis *et al.*).
WESTERN GREBE: Very rare anywhere in the Carolinas, an individual at Falls Lake, NC, Nov. 11-17 (Ricky Davis, sev. obs.) provided about the 5th or 6th sighting for that state.
HERALD PETREL: The only Herald Petrels reported this fall were the two off Manteo, NC, Aug. 25 (Brian Patteson *et al.*).
CORY'S SHEARWATER: Numbers of this species were about average off North Carolina this season. Of interest though was a Cory's seen along the breakers at Holden Beach, NC, Nov. 22-23 (Roy Slack).The presence of this bird close to shore was no doubt due to steady onshore winds for several days.
MANX SHEARWATER: This species continued its presence off North Carolina from the summer with singles off Hatteras Aug. 4 & 18 and four off Hatteras Aug. 5 (Patteson *et al.*). Manx Shearwaters are normally absent from our waters during the fall months.
BAND-RUMPED STORM-PETREL: The peak count during the fall season was 63 off Hatteras, NC, Aug. 5 (Patteson *et al.*).
WHITE-TAILED TROPICBIRD: Always exciting, White-taileds were found in both states this fall. In South Carolina, one off of Murrells Inlet Sept. 1 (Jack Peachey and Rich Lilly) was photographed and provided a very good sighting for that state. In North Carolina, off Hatteras, two were found Aug. 4, and singles were seen Aug. 5 & 12 (Patteson *et al.*).
MASKED BOOBY: One off Manteo, NC, Aug. 25 (Patteson *et al.*) was a good find. This species has been hard to find the last couple of years.
AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN: This species was reported much more than normal this fall. In South Carolina, numbers were truly impressive. The best counts included 200 flying over Donnelley W.M.A., Colleton County, Oct. 27 (Carroll Richard and Kathleen O'Grady), 150 on Wadmalaw Sound from mid-Aug. to early Sept. (Van Atkins), 134 at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper County Aug. 8 (Steve Calver), and 63 at Bear Is. W.M.A. Aug. 18 (Andrea Ceselski, *fide* Lex Glover). Others in that state included one at Huntington Beach St. Pk. Oct. 20 (Larry Barden *et al.*) and two at Litchfield Beach Oct. 24 (Bob Maxwell). In North Carolina, one was very rare inland at Falls Lake Nov. 11-18 (Ricky Davis, sev. obs.), one was at Pea Is. N.W.R. Nov. 10 (Amalie Tuffin), and from four to six were at L. Mattamuskeet Nov. 18 on into December (Haven Wiley *et al.*, Rich & Susan Boyd, sev. obs.).
MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD: A female seen heading south along the beach on Capers Is., SC, Nov. 26 (Aaron Zaretsky) was unusual and very late.
AMERICAN BITTERN: One was quite early in western Horry County, SC, Aug. 15, as noted by Stephen and Barbara Thomas. Rare sightings from North

Carolina's mountains included one in flight in Transylvania County Sept. 20 (Nancy Iha) and one at L. Osceola, Hendersonville, Nov. 16 (Ron Selvey).

LEAST BITTERN: An individual of this species was found in downtown Winston-Salem, NC, Oct. 3 (Ramona Snavely and Shirley Needham) after apparently hitting a window. The bird, which died on the 8th, provided a rare local occurrence.

REDDISH EGRET: Reddish Egret reports were down somewhat this fall. In North Carolina, a juvenile was at Sunset Beach, NC, Aug. 7 (*fide* Russ Tyndall), an adult was at the C. Hatteras salt pond Aug. 3 (C. & G. Williamson), and another adult was at North Pond, Pea Is. N.W.R. Aug. 25 (John Daughtry). In South Carolina, one was at Kiawah Is. Aug. 27-28 (Jim Edwards), and one was at Huntington Beach St. Pk. Sept. 15 (Jack Peachey *et al.*) until at least Oct. 20 (Larry Barden *et al.*).

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON: Three immatures at a pond along Dairyland Road, Orange County, NC, Nov. 10 were locally unusual and late (Jeff Pippen).

ROSEATE SPOONBILL: Always noteworthy, Spoonbill reports involved one on James Is., SC, Aug. 15 (Ed Blitch, *fide* Dennis Forsythe) and one on Bull Is., Cape Romain N.W.R., SC, Oct. 22 (Perry Nugent *et al.*).

WOOD STORK: Several Wood Storks were found outside of their normal range this fall. In South Carolina one was at Townville Aug. 12 (Jim Edwards and Bing Somers). In North Carolina, one was over the Cape Fear River, near Carvers, Bladen County Aug. 8 (Sam Cooper), and two were along the L. Mattamuskeet causeway Aug. 14 (Jim Parnell).

SNOW GOOSE: Several reports of this species involved locally uncommon sightings away from the usual northeastern North Carolina areas. The best count was the 17 (8 White, 9 Blue) Snows at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, Nov. 19 (Steve Calver).

ROSS'S GOOSE: The only Ross's Goose reported was at Pea Is. N.W.R., NC, from Nov. 17 (Haven Wiley *et al.*) until the end of the period (sev. obs.).

TUNDRA SWAN: Locally unusual were five flying north off the beach at Ft. Fisher, NC, Nov. 5 (Bruce Smithson) and five at West Lake, Wake County, NC, Nov. 24-30 (Steve Shultz).

EURASIAN WIGEON: This fall's Eurasian Wigeon reports included at least three (2 males, 1 female) at the usual North Pond, Pea Is. N.W.R., NC site Oct. 19 until the end of the month (m. obs.), and one male at L. Mattamuskeet, NC, Nov. 23 (Allen Bryan).

BLUE-WINGED TEAL: A truly impressive total for this species was had at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, Oct. 6 when 2100 were counted by Paul Sykes and Steve Calver.

SURF SCOTER: One at Jordan Lake, NC, Nov. 26 was the only one reported inland this fall (Gordon Brown).

WHITE-WINGED SCOTER: One at Jordan Lake, NC, Nov. 26 was a good find for an inland location (Gordon Brown).

LONG-TAILED DUCK: A female photographed on L. Hickory, NC, Oct. 28-29 (Dwayne & Lori Martin) was rare inland and provided a first local record.

OSPREY: One was somewhat late inland at Roanoke Rapids Lake, NC, Nov. 18 (Ricky Davis).
SWALLOW-TAILED KITE: One at Ft. Fisher, NC, Sept. 8 was locally unusual (Sam Cooper). Fall reports of this species in North Carolina are much rarer than spring to early summer reports.
MISSISSIPPI KITE: An excellent count of 26 was had from the hawk watch at Congaree Bluffs, SC, Aug. 16 (Donna Bailey). Also single fall migrants were locally uncommon at Caesar's Head St. Pk., SC, Sept. 23 and Oct. 19 (Jeff Catlin).
NORTHERN GOSHAWK: This rare species was seen well twice this fall. An adult was at Pocosin Lakes N.W.R., NC, Nov. 11 (Rich & Susan Boyd), and an immature was on Roanoke Is., NC, Nov. 24 (Russ & Patricia Tyndall). Reports of this hawk have been increasing the last couple of years.

Photographs of North Carolina Birds

John Gerwin, Collections Manager
North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences
11 W. Jones St. Raleigh, NC 27601-1029
John.Gerwin@ncmail.net

The North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences is the repository of documentation (specimens, photographs, and voice recordings) for North Carolina bird records. Much of the documentation we receive is for first state records, but other submissions are highly valuable for documenting subspecies, odd plumages, color phases, exotics, and other topics of interest.

Until a few years ago, photographers routinely sent the Museum their prints and slides for documentation. Nowadays, many photographers simply post their photos on the Internet, but these postings are often temporary. Thus, when the website is inactivated or photos are removed, that documentation literally vanishes

If your photograph of a North Carolina bird appears on the Internet, you may receive a call or email request from the Museum. We hope you will grant permission for it to be downloaded and archived at the Museum for the benefit of future generations. All such documentation is available, upon written request, to the public for review, study, etc. For further details, simply write to the Curator of Birds. Please be aware that it is difficult for Museum staff to keep up with the many photos taken and posted, and we do miss things. Thus, if you have something you feel would be of interest and would like to have stored on file at the Museum, feel free to contact one of the bird collections staff.

BROAD-WINGED HAWK: A Broad-winged near Georgetown, SC, Oct. 18 was a good find for that coastal locality (Reece Mitchell). Also one at Winston-Salem, NC, Nov. 5 (Doug DeNeve) was a little late for a fall migrant.
ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK: A light phase Rough-legged Hawk returned to its usual haunt at Alligator River N.W.R., NC, as early as Nov. 1, as noted by Ricky Davis. This bird was seen on into the winter season as well.
GOLDEN EAGLE: Golden Eagles were reported several times this fall. From the mountains, an adult was at Hooper Bald, Cherohala Skyway, Graham County, NC, Aug. 29 (Owen & Pat McConnell), one was at Graveyard Fields, NC, Oct. 20 (*fide* Bill Sanderson), and an immature was seen from two different locations in Watauga County, NC, Nov. 9 & 12 (Walt Conway, Curtis Smalling). Rare anywhere outside of the mountains, an adult was at Capers Is., SC, Nov. 23 (Aaron Zaretsky), and an immature was found at Congaree Swamp Nat. Mon., SC, Nov. 22 (*fide* Robin Carter).
PEREGRINE FALCON: Two were good finds near the Silver Bluff Audubon Sanctuary, SC, Sept. 15, as noted by Anne Waters.
RING-NECKED PHEASANT: Apparently this species is still holding on in the Cape Lookout National Seashore as evidenced by reports of up to three at Portsmouth Is. in early October (*fide* John Fussell). Pheasants have been gone from the Cape Hatteras Seashore since the late eighties to early nineties.
BLACK RAIL: Reports of this elusive species are always noteworthy. One was heard at the beach ponds at Long Beach, NC, Oct. 31 (Sam Cooper). One seen in an impoundment at L. Mattamuskeet, NC, Nov. 26 (Mary McDavit) was somewhat late for the season. Also one was seen at Savannah N.W.R., SC, Aug. 25 (Andrea Ceselski).
VIRGINIA RAIL: One was a good find at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC, Nov. 1-4 (Ron Selvey, Wayne Forsythe).
SORA: One near Durham, NC, Oct. 7 (Norm Budnitz) was a complete surprise as it flushed from a broomsedge field and flew into a tree! Elsewhere, locally uncommon were singles at Happy Valley, NC, Oct. 20 (Dwayne & Lori Martin) and Jackson Park, NC, Nov. 1-4 (Wayne Forsythe and Ron Selvey).
SANDHILL CRANE: Two flying south over the Croatan Nat. For. near Newport, NC, Oct. 30 (John Fussell and Jenna Hester) were the only ones reported.
BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER: Inland reports involved an excellent count of 11 at Hooper Lane, Henderson County, NC, Sept. 1 (Wayne Forsythe and Bob Olthoff) and singles at Falls Lake, NC, Oct. 21 and Jordan Lake, NC, Oct. 28 (Ricky Davis).
AMERICAN GOLDEN-PLOVER: Reports of this species continue to increase. The best counts were of 8 on Hooper Lane, NC, Oct. 6 (Wayne Forsythe and Bob Olthoff), four at the Orangeburg, SC, sod farm Sept. 22 (Sandy Cash *et al.*), two at L. Don T. Howell (Coddle Creek Res.), Cabarrus County, NC, Aug. 29 (Brad & Pat Carlson), and two at Pea Is., NC, Nov. 3 (Jeff Pippen & John Wright *et al.*). Others included singles at the Winslow sod farm, Scotland Neck, NC, Aug. 26 (Veronica Pantelidis) to Sept. 2 (Ricky Davis), at

Pinckney Is. N.W.R., SC, Sept. 1 (David Trently *et al.*), and at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, Oct. 6-22 (Steve Calver).

PIPING PLOVER: An excellent count of 22 Pipings was had on Ocracoke Is., NC, Sept. 11, as noted by Royce Hough.

AMERICAN OYSTERCATCHER: A possible one-day record total for this species was had at Cape Romain N.W.R., SC, Sept. 20 when 1,131 were counted during a shorebird census (Chris Hill *et al.*).

AMERICAN AVOCET: Avocets are one of the rarer inland transients in the Carolinas. Thus of note this fall were 15 at L. Auman, Moore County, NC, Oct. 19 (Dick Dole), 6 at L. Katherine, Columbia, SC, Sept. 22 (Richard Sasnett and George McCoy), 5 at the Silver Bluff Audubon Sanctuary, SC, Aug. 11 (Dan Connelly, *fide* Anne Waters), and one at L. Don T. Howell, NC, Sept. 3 (Alan Kneidel and Eric Harrold).

WILLET: Only one Willet was found inland this fall, at the Winslow sod farm, Scotland Neck, NC, Aug. 19 (Ricky Davis).

SPOTTED SANDPIPER: One was late at Roanoke Island, NC, Nov. 29, as noted by Jeff Lewis.

UPLAND SANDPIPER: Numbers of Uplands continue to be a little down the last couple of years. This fall's best totals included 20 at the Orangeburg, SC sod farm Aug. 16 (Van Atkins and Ben Smith), 9 at the Greenville, NC, airport Aug. 19 (Brad & Pat Carlson), 8 at the Bucksport, SC, sod farm Aug. 30 (Jack Peachey and Gary Phillips), and 5 at the Cherry Hospital, Wayne County, NC, fields Aug. 25 (Eric Dean). Other interesting reports included one in the mountains at Hooper Lane, NC, Sept. 4-6 (Wayne Forsythe), and one at the C. Hatteras, NC, campground Sept. 22-24 (Marcia Lyons, Jon Altman) was rather late.

LONG-BILLED CURLEW: The only Long-billeds found involved one at Portsmouth, NC, Aug. 27 (Jeff Lewis and Joan Kutulas) and two on Shackleford Banks, Carteret County, NC, Aug. 4 (Russ & Patricia Tyndall), with at least one still present there as late as mid-October (*fide* John Fussell).

MARBLED GODWIT: Marbled Godwit is one of the rarest inland migrants. Thus of note was the presence of one at L. Don T. Howell, NC, Aug. 17 until at least Oct. 9 (Tomm Lorenzin, sev. obs.).

SANDERLING: A few were found inland this fall, with two at Hooper Lane, NC, Aug. 24 (Wayne Forsythe and Bob Olthoff) and two at Jordan Lake, NC, Sept. 15 (Josh Rose, Norm Budnitz).

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER: One was slightly late at Bodie Is. pond, NC, Nov. 10 (Haven Wiley *et al.*), and one was a good find inland at Winston-Salem, NC, Aug. 12 (Ramona Snavely *et al.*).

BAIRD'S SANDPIPER: Always noteworthy, Baird's reports included one at Portsmouth, NC, Aug. 27 (Jeff Lewis and Joan Kutulas), one at Hooper Lane, NC, Aug. 25 - Sept. 4 (Wayne Forsythe, Bob Olthoff), from one to two at L. Don T. Howell, NC, Aug. 29 (Brad & Pat Carlson), and one studied well at L. Mattamuskeet, NC, on the amazingly late date of Nov. 24 (Russ & Patricia Tyndall).

PECTORAL SANDPIPER: The best totals reported were 200 at the Orangeburg, SC, sod farm Aug. 16 (Van Atkins and Ben Smith) and 125 at the Winslow sod farm, NC, Aug. 19 (Ricky Davis). Also 12 at Ft. Caswell, NC, Nov. 28 were very late (Greg Massey).

PURPLE SANDPIPER: One at the Cedar Is., NC, ferry terminal Nov. 9 (Rich & Susan Boyd) was quite unusual for that location. This species is normally found on rocky structures along the immediate ocean shoreline.

CURLEW SANDPIPER: Pea Is. N.W.R., NC, provided the only reports of this species this fall. One was observed Aug. 4 (Jeff Lewis), Aug. 17 (Simon Thompson *et al.*), and Aug. 23 (Rich & Susan Boyd); probably the same individual was seen by all.

STILT SANDPIPER: The best inland reports included 15 at the Jacksonville, NC, W.T.P. Oct. 12 (John Fussell), five at Falls Lake, NC, Oct 31 (Brian Bockhahn), and two at Hooper Lane, NC, Sept. 1 (Wayne Forsythe and Bob Olthoff). Others of note were one at L. Don T. Howell, NC, Aug. 13 - Sept. 1 (Tomm Lorenzin, Ann & Drew Patten) and Oct. 23 (Tomm Lorenzin); one at the Silver Bluff Audubon Sanctuary, SC, Aug. 17 (Anne Waters); and one at the Winston-Salem, NC, W.T.P. Sept. 4 (David Disher). Also several late reports involved two at Bodie Is. pond, NC, Nov. 3 (Josh Rose) and six at L. Mattamuskeet, NC, Nov. 10 (Bob Holmes).

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER: Buff-breasteds continue to be reported frequently in the Carolinas during fall. This year's sightings involved four at Hooper Lane, NC, Aug. 29 (Wayne Forsythe, Bob Olthoff); one at the Winslow sod farm, NC, Aug. 14 (Elisa Enders, Frank Enders) and three there Sept. 2 (Ricky Davis); two at the Winston-Salem, NC, W.T.P. Sept. 4 (Doug DeNeve); two at the Orangeburg, SC, sod farm Aug. 18 (Anne Waters) and three there Sept. 23 (Judy Walker *et al.*); and one in Cabarrus County, NC, Aug. 17 (Tomm Lorenzin).

RUFF: A female photographed at the pond at C. Hatteras, NC, Sept. 7 was the only one reported this fall (Brian Patteson).

SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER: Inland reports included 30 at the Winslow sod farm, NC, Aug. 14 (Elisa Enders, Frank Enders), five at the Silver Bluff Audubon Sanctuary, SC, Aug. 11 (Dan Connelley, *fide* Anne Waters), two at Hooper Lane, NC, Aug. 4 (Wayne Forsythe and Bob Olthoff), and two at L. Don T. Howell, NC, Aug. 14 - Sept. 3 (Taylor Piephoff, Alan Kneidel and Eric Harrold).

LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER: This species is much rarer as an inland migrant, thus of note were singles at L. Don T. Howell, NC, Oct. 9 (Tomm Lorenzin) and at the Jacksonville, NC W.T.P. Oct. 12 (John Fussell).

WILSON'S PHALAROPE: In South Carolina, the peak number reported from the Savannah Spoil Site was 20 on Aug. 13, as noted by Steve Calver. In North Carolina, singles were noted at Pea Is. N.W.R. Aug. 11 (Steve Shultz) and at the Goldsboro W.T.P. Aug. 16 (Erik Thomas).

SOUTH POLAR SKUA: This species was frequently reported off Hatteras, NC, during August with four on the 4th, two on the 5th, two on the 11th, and one on the 18th (Brian Patteson *et al.*).

POMARINE JAEGER: Always exciting when seen from shore, singles were at Coquina Beach, NC, Nov. 4 (Harry LeGrand and Ricky Davis), at Edisto Beach, SC, Nov. 23 (Donna Bailey and Sharon Brown), and at Bald Head Is., NC, Nov. 27 (Greg Massey).

PARASITIC JAEGER: Although this species is more common than Pomarine from the beaches during fall, noteworthy reports involved three at Nags Head, NC, Nov. 1 (Ricky Davis), one off Pea Is. N.W.R. Nov. 10 (Haven Wiley *et al.*), and one at Bald Head Is., NC, Nov. 27 (Greg Massey).

LONG-TAILED JAEGER: Only one report was received this fall, that being a good count of four off Hatteras, NC, Aug. 4 (Patteson *et al.*).

GLAUCOUS GULL: A first-winter individual at Carolina Beach, NC, Nov. 28 (Lex Glover and Steve Patterson) was locally rare. Amazingly this was the only Glaucous reported: usually they are found in the Cape Hattteras, NC, area before elsewhere.

SABINE'S GULL: One off Manteo, NC, Sept. 1 was an excellent find (Patteson *et al.*). This was the first Sabine's Gull reported in the Carolinas in several years.

CASPIAN TERN: Always noteworthy as inland fall migrants, locally rare were two at L. Julian, Buncombe County, NC, Sept. 3 (Wayne Forsythe) and two at L. Wateree, Fairfield County, SC, Sept. 15 (Donna Bailey *et al.*). From two to three were at Jordan Lake, NC, Sept. 15 (Will Cook, Josh Rose), and one at Falls Lake, NC, Oct. 27 provided a very late occurrence for an inland site (Harry LeGrand).

COMMON TERN: Noteworthy inland sightings consisted of 12 on L. Norman, NC, Sept. 10 (Stephen Harris), two at L. Hickory, NC, Oct. 24 (Dwayne & Lori Martin), and one at Falls Lake, NC, Sept. 23 (Ricky Davis). Also one at Bald Head Is., NC, Nov. 27 was very late (Greg Massey).

BRIDLED TERN: Bridled Tern numbers were down somewhat this fall off North Carolina. The peak count was only eight off Manteo Sept. 2 (Patteson *et al.*). In South Carolina waters, a pelagic trip out of Savannah, GA, recorded an excellent total of 29 Bridleds Sept. 1 (Giff Beaton *et al.*).

SOOTY TERN: Sooties were present offshore in good numbers, with the peak North Carolina count being 51 during Sept. 1-2 off Manteo (Patteson *et al.*). That pelagic trip out of Savannah into South Carolina waters Sept. 1 found 17 Sooties (Beaton *et al.*).

BLACK TERN: Numbers of inland migrants were down this fall. The best counts included 8 on L. Hickory, NC, Aug. 19 (Dwayne Martin), three on Par Pond, Savannah River Site, SC, Aug. 22 (Paul Champlin), three at L. Norman, NC, Sept. 10 (Stephen Harris), two at Falls Lake, NC, Aug. 26 (Ricky Davis), and one at Hooper Lane, NC, Sept. 1 (Wayne Forsythe).

MOURNING DOVE: Two Mournings were at Carver's Gap, Roan Mountain, NC, all summer, and on Aug. 25 a juvenile was seen (Rick Knight). This provided a very locally unusual breeding report from that high elevation (5,500').

WHITE-WINGED DOVE: The 1-2 birds at Beaufort, NC, continued throughout the fall (sev. obs.); and apparently another individual was present at Ft. Macon, NC, Oct. 10-17 (Rich & Susan Boyd, John Fussell, Bob Holmes).
BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO: The number of sightings of this elusive species was a little above normal. All from North Carolina, singles were found at Valle Crucis, Watauga County, Aug. 1 & 8 (Curtis Smalling); Jackson Park, Sept. 16 (Wayne Forsythe and Ron Selvey); Castleford, Watauga County, Sept. 17-19 (Smalling); Mt. Pisgah, Sept. 30 (Bill Sanderson); and on the coast at Pea Is. N.W.R. Oct. 26 (Brad Carlson, Brian Patteson, Jeff Lewis).
SNOWY OWL: One, apparently an immature male, was found at Ft. Fisher, NC, Nov. 24 (Bruce Smithson, Taylor Piephoff *et al.*). Remaining in the area until at least early December, this bird provided the best opportunity in a very long time for birders to see one in the Carolinas. In our area at least, Snowies normally stay on the move and are hard to relocate the following day.
SHORT-EARED OWL: After several birds summered at Alligator River N.W.R., NC, two adults and a juvenile were seen Aug. 15 (Kim King-Wrenn and Dennis Stewart), thereby indicating breeding there this year. Breeding reports of this species are unheard of in the Carolinas!
NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL: The only reports received this fall involved one roosting in a bird house at Piney Creek, Alleghany County, NC, Nov. 4 (James Coman) and one banded at Hilton Pond, York, SC, Nov. 27 (Bill Hilton).
WHIP-POOR-WILL: One found dead in a yard at Morehead City, NC, Oct. 5 (John Fussell) provided a locally unusual report.
BLACK-CHINNED HUMMINGBIRD: A female was banded at Pawleys Is., SC, Nov. 10 (Gary Phillips), providing one of the first reports of this increasingly documented species for the fall season.
CALLIOPE HUMMINGBIRD: Another species being reported more frequently, an immature male Calliope was present in the Little River, Transylvania County, NC, area Nov. 4-8 (Norma Siebenheller *et al.*, Wayne Forsythe).
OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER: Always noteworthy, Olive-sideds found included singles at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC, Sept. 1 (Wayne Forsythe and Bob Olthoff), at Pinckney Is. N.W.R., SC, Sept. 1 (David Trently *et al.*), at Congaree Nat. Mon., SC, Sept. 23 (Pete Worthington), at Santee Coastal Reserve, SC, Oct. 2 (Gary Phillips, Jack Peachey, Bob Maxwell), and at the Savannah River Site, SC, Oct. 6 (Tracey Champlin, *fide* Paul Champlin).

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YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER: This species continues to be reported rather frequently during fall migration. This year's sightings involved singles at Columbia, SC, Sept. 15 (Robin Carter & Caroline Eastman), at the Savannah River Site, SC, Sept. 18 (Paul Champlin), one still singing in Charlotte, NC, Sept. 25 (John Buckman), one at Huntington Beach St. Pk., SC, Sept. 28 (Bob Maxwell, Jack Peachey, Gary Phillips), and one at Punchpole Landing, Horry County, SC, Sept. 30 (Gary Phillips).

LEAST FLYCATCHER: Reports of this flycatcher were about normal, with one at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, Sept. 18 (Steve Calver), one at Punchpole Landing, Horry County, SC, Sept. 30 (Gary Phillips), and one at Jockeys Ridge St. Pk., NC, Oct. 9 (Jim Bloor). One heard calling at Leland, Brunswick County, NC, Aug. 24 was quite early (Greg Massey).

WESTERN KINGBIRD: Only two were found this fall. One was at Pea Is. N.W.R., NC, Oct. 27 (John Wright *et al.*), and one was at Kure Beach, NC, Nov. 3-5 (Mark Galizio, Bruce Smithson).

TROPICAL KINGBIRD: North Carolina's second identified Tropical Kingbird was at South Pond, Pea Is. N.W.R. Oct. 29 - Nov. 18 (Ricky Davis, Russ & Patricia Tyndall, John & Paula Wright, m. obs.). The call was heard a couple of times to rule out the similar Couch's Kingbird. The first Tropical was at L. Mattamuskeet, Dec. 29, 1985 - Jan. 3, 1986. Amazingly another yellow-breasted kingbird of the Tropical/Couch's complex was seen Nov. 11 at the northern end of Pea Is. at Oregon Inlet (Bob Holmes *et al.*). This individual was seen well perched and in flight, but was not heard. This was also the second Tropical/Couch's reported for the state, the first from the Outer Banks in the 90's.

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER: Only one migrant was reported this fall, that being an immature bird at Mackay Is. N.W.R., NC, Aug. 18 (David Clark).

FORK-TAILED FLYCATCHER: North Carolina got its second Fork-tailed Flycatcher when one was found at Pea Is. N.W.R. Nov. 4 (Les Todd). The bird caused much excitement during the day as it was observed several more times as it continued its northward movement. The bird was last seen late in the afternoon in the Nags Head area.

WARBLING VIREO: One at Roanoke Island, NC, Sept. 17 (Jeff Lewis) provided a locally rare sighting for the coast.

PHILADELPHIA VIREO: The best count of this much-looked-for migrant was the six at Jackson Park, NC, Sept. 11 (Wayne Forsythe and Ron Selvey).

HORNED LARK: Locally rare were two at Cape Hatteras, NC, Oct. 29 (Ricky Davis) and singles at Roanoke Island, NC, Oct. 31 & Nov. 8 (Jeff Lewis).

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BROWN CREEPER: One found near Greensboro, NC, Aug. 16 was absurdly early, as noted by Rich & Susan Boyd.

GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH: A good nocturnal count of 21 was had at Winnsboro, SC, Sept. 21 (Donna Bailey). Also one at Bald Head Is., NC, Oct. 30 was a little late (Greg Massey).

HERMIT THRUSH: Three in Aiken County, SC, Sept. 15 (Anne Waters) were quite early.

WOOD THRUSH: An individual of this species at Winston-Salem, NC, Nov. 9 was very late (*fide* Ramona Snavely).

SPRAGUE'S PIPIT: One was found at Cape Hatteras, NC, Oct. 28 (John Wright *et al.*) This bird, present until at least Nov. 18, was seen by m. obs., providing probably the best ever chance for seeing this species in the Carolinas. Videotape footage was obtained, thereby providing the best physical documentation for this species in the state (Brian Patteson).

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER: One at the Bodie Is., NC, Lighthouse area Oct. 7 provided a very rare sighting for that coastal locality (Russ & Rose Lay).

HYBRID WARBLERS: Sightings of individuals of the Blue-winged X Golden-winged Warbler hybrid complex are always noteworthy. This fall, "Brewster's" were found at Castleford, Watauga County, NC, Aug. 10-16 and Sept. 16-18 (Curtis Smalling). Also the rarer "Lawrence's" was a good find at Jackson Park, NC, Aug. 31, as noted by Wayne Forsythe.

TENNESSEE WARBLER: One was locally uncommon and somewhat late at Pea Is. N.W.R., NC, Oct. 27 (Jeff Lewis).

NASHVILLE WARBLER: This species is usually hard to find along the coastal regions of the Carolinas. This year's sightings included three birds on Roanoke Island, NC, during mid-September to early October (Jeff Lewis), several in the Oregon Inlet, NC, area during October (Russ & Rose Lay, Jeff Lewis, Brian Patteson), one at Ft. Macon, NC, Oct. 7 (Rich & Susan Boyd), one at Ft. Fisher, NC, on the early date of Aug. 19 (Greg Massey), and one at Litchfield Beach, SC, Oct. 22 (Bob Maxwell). Away from the coast, the best one-day count received was of two at Charlotte, NC, Oct. 18 (John Buckman).

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER: An excellent count of 40+ was had at Jackson Park, NC, Sept. 15, as noted by Wayne Forsythe and Ron Selvey. Along the coast, one was early on Roanoke Island, NC, Aug. 23 (Jeff Lewis). Also one at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, Sept. 18 was locally rare (Steve Calver).

MAGNOLIA WARBLER: Another impressive one-day total for a warbler was the 40+ at Jackson Park, NC, Sept. 15 (Forsythe and Selvey). One at Pea Is. N.W.R., NC, Nov. 4 (Ricky Davis and Brian Patteson) was a little late.

CAPE MAY WARBLER: Two Cape Mays found at Crossnore, Avery County, NC, Aug. 10 were extremely early (Clyde Sorenson and Sterling Southern). Also one at Roanoke Island, NC, Aug. 24 was very early (Jeff Lewis).

Black-throated Blue Warbler by Dominick D'Ostilio, 2002.

BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER: Another very early warbler was the Black-throated Blue found at Congaree Bluffs Park, SC, Aug. 16 (Donna Bailey). This species often lingers late in the Carolinas. This fall's better reports were of singles at Raleigh, NC, Nov. 15 (Dan Kaplan), at Conway, SC, Nov. 25 (Gary Phillips), and on Roanoke Island, NC, Nov. 28 on into winter (Jeff Lewis).

BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER: One on Roanoke Island, NC, Aug. 24 was quite early at that coastal locality (Jeff Lewis).

KIRTLAND'S WARBLER: In the unusual department, a bird was heard singing the full song of a Kirtland's Warbler in Mayesville, SC, on the date of Aug. 25 (Evelyn Dabbs and Jimmy Beatty). Even more amazing than a bird singing on fall migration is the fact that Dabbs has heard this song at that location once before in spring! Could this rare species be migrating over that location regularly?

BLACKPOLL WARBLER: One was somewhat late at Pea Is. N.W.R., NC, Nov. 3 (Will Cook).

CERULEAN WARBLER: Locally uncommon were singles at Roanoke Island, NC, Aug. 16-17 (Jeff Lewis, Simon Thompson *et al.*) and near Irmo, Lexington County, SC, Aug. 9 (Robin Carter).
KENTUCKY WARBLER: One on Roanoke Island, NC, Sept. 4 (Jeff Lewis) was considered to be locally rare at that coastal locality.
CONNECTICUT WARBLER: Always noteworthy in the Carolinas, singles this fall were at Roanoke Island, NC, Sept. 26 and Duck, NC, Sept. 30 (Jeff Lewis).
MOURNING WARBLER: The rare Mourning Warbler was found only in the mountains, with one at Jackson Park, NC, Aug. 26 (Simon Thompson), another there Sept. 29-30 (Wayne Forsythe and Ron Selvey), and one at Rich Mt. Gap, Blue Ridge Parkway, NC, Sept. 11 (*fide* Curtis Smalling).
WILSON'S WARBLER: This warbler was found about average across the Carolinas. Some of the better reports included two at Charlotte, NC, Oct. 12 (John Buckman), one at L. Auman, Moore County, NC, Sept. 15 (Dick & Lois Dole), one at Pea Island, NC, Oct. 17 (Jeff Lewis), one at Huntington Beach St. Pk., SC, Sept. 23 (Sandy Cash), one at Conway, SC, Sept. 26 (Gary Phillips), and one at Savannah N.W.R., SC, Oct. 21 (Carroll Richard).
CANADA WARBLER: Rare along the coast, one was a good find at the Bodie Is., NC, Lighthouse woods Sept. 2 (Jeff Lewis and Joan Kutulas).
YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT: One found at Ridge Junction Overlook, Blue Ridge Parkway, NC, Sept. 9 (Dwayne & Lori Martin) was considered locally unusual for that high (5,680') elevation.
AMERICAN TREE SPARROW: Reports of this rare species anywhere in the Carolinas are always noteworthy. This fall one was found at Piney Creek, Alleghany County, NC, Nov. 2 (James Coman), and one was at Cowans Ford Wildlife Refuge, Mecklenburg County, NC, Nov. 3 (Danny Swicegood). With these birds being obvious migrants, one wonders when will some be found as winter visitors in our area.
CLAY-COLORED SPARROW: Away from the usual North Carolina Outer Banks, where regular in fall, this species was found several times. One was at the Conway, SC, W.T.P. Oct. 8 (Gary Phillips), one was at Ft. Macon, NC, Oct. 27 (John Fussell), one was in Conway, SC, Nov. 14-15 (Phillips), and one was near Greenville, NC, Nov. 25 (Ken Harrell).
LARK SPARROW: Reports of this species, as usual, were mainly coastal. This fall singles were at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, Aug. 13 & 28, Sept. 18 (Steve Calver), Manteo, NC., Aug. 31(Jeff Lewis), Pea Is. N.W.R., NC, Sept. 2-3 (Lewis), Ft. Fisher, NC, Sept. 16 (Sam Cooper), and C. Lookout, NC, Sept. 26 (Rich & Susan Boyd, John Fussell *et al.*). Counts of two were had at Pea Is. N.W.R., NC, Sept. 22 (Brad & Pat Carlson), at C. Lookout, NC, Oct. 2 (John Fussell *et al.*), and near Greenville, NC, Nov. 25 (Ken Harrell).
LeCONTE'S SPARROW: The only report received was of one at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, Nov. 7, as noted by Steve Calver.
LINCOLN'S SPARROW: This sparrow was once again reported too many times to be mentioned here. Some of the better sightings involved excellent one-day counts, such as six at L. Don T. Howell, NC, Oct. 23 (Tomm Lorenzin),

four in the Mills River Valley, Henderson County, NC, Oct. 7 (Marilyn Westphal), three at Hope Valley, NC, Oct. 20 (Dwayne & Lori Martin), three at Hooper Lane, NC, Oct. 21 (Wayne Forsythe and Marilyn Westphal), and two at Robbinsville, NC, Sept. 18 (Simon Thompson). Also, one was quite early at Castleford, Watauga County, NC, Sept. 13, as noted by Curtis Smalling.

LAPLAND LONGSPUR: Reports were down somewhat this fall. At Hooper Lane, NC, three birds were found Nov. 10 and by the 12th the number had grown to an impressive 15 (Wayne Forsythe, Bob Olthoff, Ron Selvey). The only coastal reports involved one at C. Hatteras, NC, Oct. 29 (Ricky Davis) and one at Huntington Beach St. Pk., SC, Nov. 13 (Jack Peachey *et al.*).

SNOW BUNTING: This fall's sightings included singles at C. Hatteras, NC, Oct. 29 (Ricky Davis), Pea Is. N.W.R., NC, Oct. 29 & Nov. 3 (Davis), on Clingman's Dome, Smoky Mts. Nat. Pk., NC, Nov. 3-4 (Ryan Young, Charlie Muise *et al*), and on Round Bald near Roan Mt., NC, Nov. 7 (Rick Knight).

BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK: An immature male was a surprise along New Rd., Conway, SC, Sept. 27 (Jack Peachey). Sightings of this western species have been few and far between in the Carolinas the last several years.

DICKCISSEL: This fall's Dickcissels included two at Myrtle Beach, SC, Nov. 10 (Sharon Turner), one at Webb W.M.A., Hampton County, SC, Sept. 13 (Carroll Richard), one at C. Hatteras, NC, Oct. 29 (Ricky Davis), one at Pea Is. N.W.R., NC, Oct. 3, 8, 17, 26 (Jeff Lewis, Brian Patteson), and one on Roanoke Is., NC, Sept. 12 & 17 (Lewis).

SHINY COWBIRD: Only one was found this fall, that being a female at Huntington Beach St. Pk., SC, Oct. 16 (Jack Peachey, Paul Rogers, Bob Maxwell).

PURPLE FINCH: Two were extremely early at the Highlands Biological Station, NC, Sept. 8 (Haven Wiley). Does this foretell of a better than usual winter influx coming our way?

RED CROSSBILL: Three in the W. Kerr Scott Dam, NC, area Oct. 22 (Robin Diaz, *fide* Dwayne & Lori Martin) were considered locally unusual. Also two along the Cherohala Skyway, Graham County, NC, Sept. 21 (Owen & Pat McConnell) were good finds for that area.

EVENING GROSBEAK: A few Evening Grosbeaks trickled into the Carolinas this fall. Reports included two in Raleigh, NC, the first of November (Karen Bearden), one at Raven Rock St. Pk., NC, Nov. 8 (Paul Hart), two near Highlands, NC, Nov. 9 (Max & Helen Parker, *fide* Pat Moore), and six at Cary, NC, Nov. 29 (Mark Johns). Will any of these hang around for the winter season?

CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

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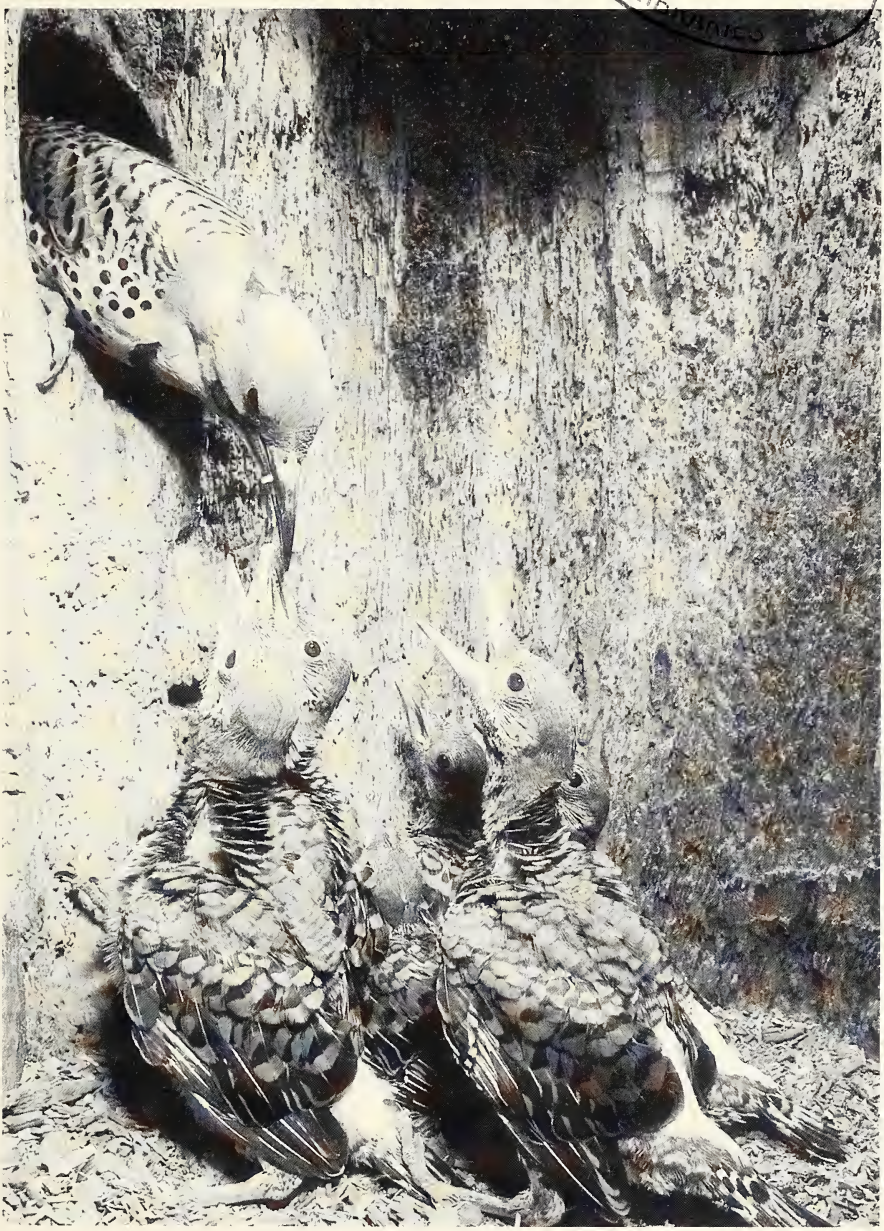

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THE CHAT

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Editor

Bob Wood, 2421 Owl Circle
West Columbia, SC 29169
bobwood@ix.netcom.com

General Field Notes

North Carolina
Will Cook

South Carolina
Dennis M. Forsythe

Briefs for the Files ..... Ricky Davis

Associate Editor ..... Andrea Ceselski

Editor Emeritus ..... Eloise Potter

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Cover (Northern Flickers) by Bill Duyck, Asheville, NC

Blood Parasites of Wintering Birds of Prey in South Carolina

Samuel H. deMent
137 Creek Rd East
Greenwood, SC 29646
sdement@selfregional.org

Reed S. deMent
137 Creek Rd East
Greenwood, SC 29646

Thaddeus Graczyk
School of Public Health
The Johns Hopkins University
500 N. Wolfe St
Baltimore, MD 21205
tgraczyk@jhsph.edu

Introduction

The effects of blood parasites on birds of prey can be subtle and difficult to detect. The field ornithologist is limited to observation and collection of data in wild birds, without the advantage of experimental manipulation of blood parasite loads (Dawson *et al.* 2000). However, important observational studies in nesting American Kestrels have shown reduction in fitness, survival, and return rates for migrating American Kestrels (Dawson and Bortolotti 2000). Migration increases exposure to biting insects, which serve as vectors for transmission of blood parasites to avian hosts (Tella *et al.* 1999).

While raptorial hematozoa have been well studied during the breeding season and migration, little data on hematozoa prevalence in wintering birds of prey is available. South Carolina provides suitable winter habitat, and its population consists of both resident and migrant birds of prey. We surveyed five common species of wintering birds of prey over a 2 year period from coastal, midlands, and western Piedmont locations in the state. These five species (see Methods) are most conducive to capture with *Bal chatri* noose traps. Prevalence of blood parasites (hematozoa), relationship to body weight, and inter-regional differences in hematozoa species were evaluated. We compared our findings with published blood parasite surveys from other Atlantic states.

Methods

Bal chatri noose traps were employed to capture wintering birds of prey in South Carolina from January 2000 through February 2002. Study months were November, December, January and February. We trapped in Greenwood, Abbeville, Saluda, Newberry, Clarendon, Williamsburg, and Georgetown Counties. Four species of Falconiformes were studied: American Kestrel, Red-shouldered Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, and Red-tailed Hawk. The Passeriforme studied was Loggerhead Shrike. Common house mice (*Mus musculus*) live-

trapped at a local roller mill (Bub 1991; deMent and deMent 2001) were used as lures. We attempted to capture all birds of prey that we sighted in the study area.

Upon capture, birds of prey were banded, aged (HY = hatch year; AHY = after hatch year), sexed (2 species), weighed to the nearest 0.1 gram, non-flattened wing cord measured to the nearest millimeter, and birds condition recorded according to guidelines (North American Bird Banding Manual 1991, 1997). Location, time, and date of capture were also recorded in the field. Examination for external parasites was undertaken. Blood was collected from a superficial vein between the hallux and first toe with a sterile 23 gauge needle. A thin blood film was smeared on a clean glass slide labeled with the band number assigned to the bird (deMent *et al.* 1986; deMent and deMent 2001). All studies were performed in compliance with Master Banding Permit 22771. Air-dried, thin blood films were stored at room temperature and then hand-stained with Wright/Giemsa stain. Glass slides were batch-mailed to The Johns Hopkins School of Public Health for qualitative blood parasite identification (blinded to sex and species). We did not prepare buffy coat, thick blood films or quantify hematozoa. Each slide was studied for a minimum of 10 minutes by a single, expert observer (Dr. Graczyk).

Unpaired student t tests compared body weight, date of capture (American Kestrel), and age of bird for infected vs. non-infected birds of prey. Contingency table Fisher's exact test was used to evaluate proportions. Linear regression with wing cord as the independent variable and body weight as the dependent variable was also performed in American Kestrels, with residuals analyzed. Some groups' sample sizes were too small for statistical comparisons.

Results

Eighty-seven thin blood films were evaluated from 84 birds of prey. Three recaptures of previously studied American Kestrels made up the additional 3 blood films studied. Of the 3 recaptures, 2 showed the same parasite, while the third was negative on restudy. There was 1 foreign band encounter (band placed by another bander), an American Kestrel first banded near Syracuse, NY, approximately 4 years prior to recapture in South Carolina. The overall prevalence of blood parasites in the 84 birds of prey was 42%. In American Kestrel, 45% were positive for hematozoa. Loggerhead Shrike had a prevalence of 30%, Red-shouldered Hawk 33%, and Cooper's Hawk 50%. One Red-tailed Hawk was studied, which was negative for hematozoa. Flat flies were identified in 1 Red-shouldered Hawk and 1 Cooper's Hawk.

Two genera of hematozoa were identified: *Haemoproteus spp.* (see Figure 1), *Plasmodium elongatum*, and *Plasmodium reticulum*. American Kestrels and Cooper's Hawks were sexed. Male American Kestrels outnumbered females in total numbers captured. Overall, 60% of female American Kestrels were parasitized compared to 35% of the males (P = 0.07, Fisher's exact). Both

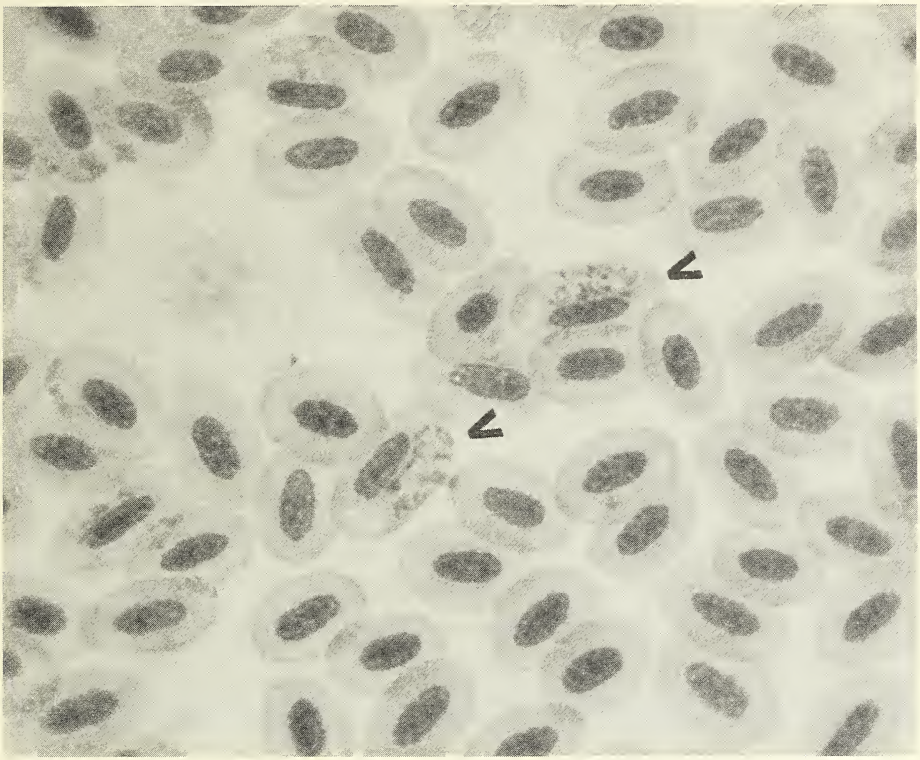
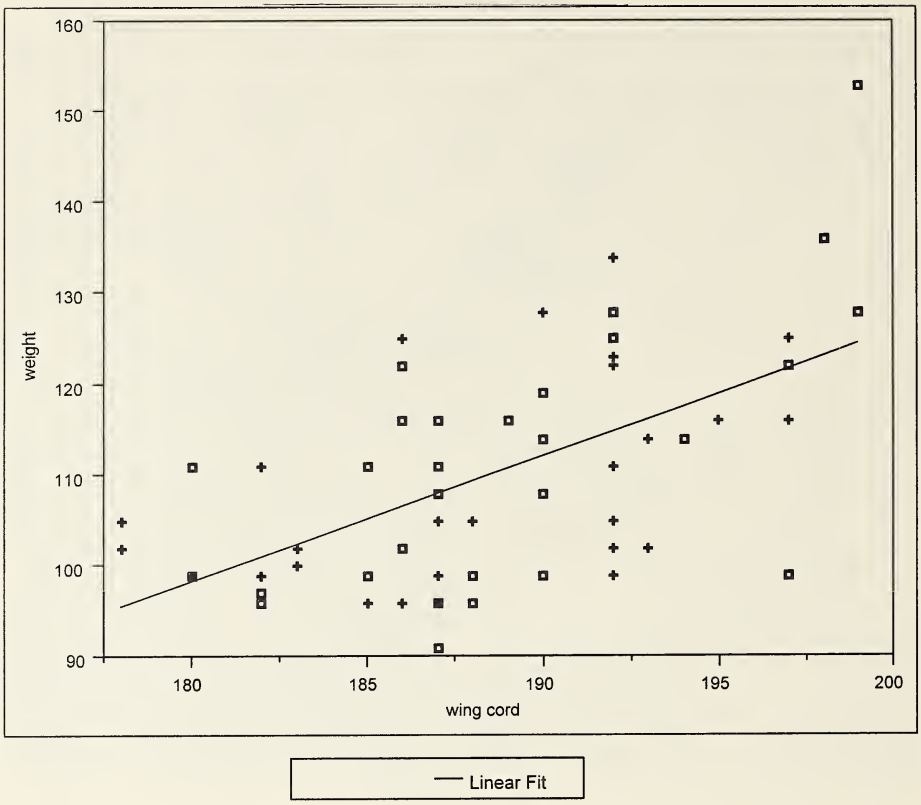


Figure 1. *Haemoproteus spp.* (arrows) located within avian nucleated red blood cells.

Cooper's Hawks captured were females. One was positive for *P. reticulum*. Neither *Leucocytozoon* nor *Trympanosoma spp.* was identified in any bird. Statistical analysis for body weight differences in parasitized vs. non-parasitized birds was not significant ($P > 0.05$). Linear regression analysis of wing cord (independent variable) vs. body weight (dependent variable) for infected vs. non-infected American Kestrels was also performed (see Table). Residuals analyzed showed more negative residuals distribution for infected birds compared to non-infected birds, but statistical significance was not achieved. Location of capture (coastal, midlands, or western Piedmont) did not show statistical difference for prevalence or for species of hematozoa. When data were stratified for month of capture, statistical difference ($P = 0.02$) was observed for the number of parasitized birds captured in February (18 out of 30 positive) compared to combined November, December and January (10 out of 32 positive).



Data. Weight by Wing Cord. American Kestrels, + = infected.

Discussion

Tella *et al.* (1991) determined that migrating birds of prey more often harbored hematozoa than residents. Biting insects, the vectors for blood parasite transmission to avian hosts, are frequently encountered along warmer migration routes and at wintering grounds. Although only 1 migrant was confirmed in this study based on banding data, a considerable proportion of the American Kestrels captured would be predicted to be migrants based on reduced field identifications of this species during the summer months in the study area. The aforementioned migrant American Kestrel was negative for hematozoa. More sophisticated studies like stable isotope analysis may help distinguish resident vs. migrant birds of prey in South Carolina and allow for further stratification of the data. The effects of blood parasites on reproductive success, migration return rates, and growth have been detailed in breeding American Kestrels (Dawson and Bortolotti 2000). Female American Kestrels are larger than males and therefore can better allocate energy to tolerate parasite burden (Dawson and Bortolotti 2001). This finding may explain why one female American Kestrel in our study was negative for hematozoa on recapture 11 months after first

studied. Fedynich *et al.* (1995) attributed such discrepancies to host immune response, host-parasite interactions or sampling error.

Kirkpatrick and Lauer (1985) reported that male American Kestrels were more often parasitized with hematozoa than females in a study of mid-Atlantic raptors. Our study suggests the opposite. Kirkpatrick and Lauer (1985) also identified *Leucocytozoon spp.* in their study, but species that most often harbor this parasite (accipiters and Red-tailed Hawks) totaled only 3 of our study population. Apanius and Kirkpatrick (1988) inversely correlated body weight with parasite burden in American Kestrel, but they quantified hematozoa. In addition, their study was conducted during the breeding season, which places an additional drain on body energy reserves, and when combined with parasite burden, may account for statistical differences reported in body weights for parasitized vs. non-parasitized birds of prey. We performed linear regression analysis for wing cord (independent variable) vs. body weight (dependent variable) for infected vs. non-infected American Kestrels. Residuals analyzed showed a more negative (left) shift of distribution for infected birds compared to non-infected birds, but did not attain statistical significance. Hematozoa would be expected to have a negative effect on body weight.

Our overall prevalence for hematozoa in Falconiformes was 43%, compared to 33% for Florida, and 59% for mid-Altantic raptors (Forrester *et al.* 1994; Kirkpatrick and Lauer 1985). Phalen *et al.* (1995) showed seasonal variation in prevalence of hematozoa, with accipiters captured in late spring more likely to harbor hematozoa than those captured in early spring. We report similar findings in the 62 American Kestrels studied, suggesting spring recrudescence of patent parasite infections. We do not find hematozoa data on Loggerhead Shrikes in the literature and therefore believe this data will be an important addition to the literature for this species in apparent decline. Field observations in our study area suggest that most Red-shouldered Hawks are residents. In addition, stable isotope studies on Loggerhead Shrikes in adjacent Georgia have determined that species to be residents (Hobson and Wassenaar 2001).

Conclusion

This blood parasite survey not only reports prevalence data for South Atlantic region birds of prey, but also includes prevalence of blood parasites in wintering birds of prey. With more international travel among humans, population growth, and increased potential for introduction of exotic diseases (*e.g.* West Nile virus recently), identification and monitoring of avian hematozoa is essential. Comparison of avian hematozoa data with other banding sites may help detect regional differences in hematozoa prevalence and better explain reduced return rates of migrating birds of prey to their breeding grounds. The possible potentiation effect of introduced diseases (*e.g.*, West Nile virus) with native diseases like hematozoa remains to be determined.

Acknowledgments

Jean Parsons, supervisor of hematology at Self Regional Hospital, hand-stained each thin blood film with Wright/Giemsa stain. Don Houston, owner of Greenwood Roller Mills, kindly allowed live trapping of wild mice. Dr. Andre Lubecke, of the Mathematics Department at Lander University, provided the statistical Table and advice.

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1997 - 1999 Report of the South Carolina Bird Records Committee

Lex Glover, Chair
Donna Slyce Bailey,
Secretary and Compiler
Gifford Beaton, Jr.
Tim Kalbach
Taylor Piephoff
Will Post

In 1997, 1998, and 1999, the South Carolina Bird Records Committee completed action on 25 records. Of these, 11 were accepted and 14 were not accepted. Among the accepted reports were two records that added new species to the Definitive State List. A report of a White Wagtail accompanied by photographs and a report on a specimen of a Northern Fulmar archived at the Charleston Museum of Natural History added these two species to the Definitive State List. Inclusion on the Definitive State List requires a properly vouchered specimen, unretouched recognizable photographs or video, or a recognizable sound recording of a species, as set forth by the Committee in 1996.

Membership changed somewhat during the three years covered by this report. The committee, reduced from the original nine to seven, consisted of Robin Carter, Dennis Forsythe, Lex Glover, Chris Marsh, Will Post, Simon Thompson and Pete Worthington, Chair, in 1997. At the end of 1997, Pete Worthington turned over the duties of chair to Lex Glover. Pete Worthington remained on the committee as a member. At the end of 1997, Robin Carter and Dennis Forsythe rotated off the committee and were replaced by Giff Beaton and Taylor Piephoff. In 1998, the committee consisted of Giff Beaton, Chris Marsh, Taylor Piephoff, Will Post, Simon Thompson, Pete Worthington and Lex Glover, Chair. At the end of 1998, Chris Marsh and Pete Worthington rotated off the committee and were replaced by Tim Kalbach and Steve Wagner. In 1999, the committee consisted of Giff Beaton, Tim Kalbach, Taylor Piephoff, Will Post, Simon Thompson, Steve Wagner and Lex Glover, Chair. At the end of 1999, Simon Thompson rotated off the committee and was replaced in early 2000 by Donna Slyce Bailey.

Committee activity is reviewed below.

Accepted reports:

Northern Fulmar (02-98-18) - A report written by Will Post, Katherine Higgins, Lex Glover, and Taylor Piephoff on a specimen archived at the Charleston Museum was accepted.

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (06-98-19) - A report (with photos) written by Lex Glover of three adult birds observed for just over two months in Yemassee, Hampton County, beginning in June of 1998 and extending until early August of 1998 was accepted by the committee.

Iceland Gull (02-98-05) - A single first or second winter bird of this species, seen from Huntington Beach State Park by Andreas Kristensen and several other observers in late January of 1998, was reported by Andreas Kristensen. The detailed report was accepted by the committee.

Little Gull (12-96-02) - A succinct but detailed report with sketches from Steve Calver of a bird of this species observed at the Savannah Spoil Site area in early December of 1996 was accepted by the committee.

Long-billed Murrelet (11-94-02) - A report with photos of a Marbled Murrelet, originally reported from the Huntington Beach State Park jetties in 1994 by Faye Metzl and accepted by the committee in 1995, was re-opened on the basis of the 1997 spilt of the species Marbled Murrelet by the AOU. On a review of the photos, the committee accepted the report as Long-billed Murrelet.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird (03-98-07) - A report of an immature male of this species, coming to a feeder in the suburban yard of Dennis and Donna Forsythe on James Island and banded by Bob Sargent in late January of 1998, was accepted.

White Wagtail (04-98-09) - The first state record of a White Wagtail, documented in a well written report by Kenneth Behrens accompanied by photos from Phil Turner, was accepted by the committee. This cooperative bird was seen and enjoyed by many as it stayed for a few days in mid April of 1998 around the jetty ponds at Huntington Beach State Park. This species was added to the Definitive category of the State List on the basis of this report.

Lawrence's Warbler (05-97-01 & 05-97-02) - A bird of this plumage, a plumage pattern arising as a result of one pure Blue-Winged or Golden-winged Warbler parent and one hybrid Blue-winged Warbler X Golden-winged parent, was observed for at least two days at Croft State Park in Spartanburg county in May of 1997.Two reports, one written by Stephen Harris and one written by Matthew Campbell, most likely of the same bird, were accepted by the committee.

American Tree Sparrow (12-96-01) - A report of a bird found on a rural road in the southeastern corner of Greenville county in late December of 1996 written by Pete Worthington was accepted.

Dark-eyed Junco (07-97-01) - An unusual summer report of a Dark-eyed Junco was accepted by the committee. The bird was observed coming to a feeder in Hemingway in early July of 1997 by David Donmoyer, Bo Lawrimore, and Carol Lawrimore. The bird was reported by David Donmoyer.

Non-accepted reports:

Arctic Loon (02-97-01) - A report of very brief observations of a bird close to shore at Huntington Beach State Park was not accepted due to a lack of diagnostic detail in the written description to identify the bird positively to species.

Western Grebe (02-98-04 & 06-98-13) - A report of a bird seen from shore at Litchfield Beach in late January of 1998 was not accepted due to a lack of

diagnostic details in the written documentation to identify the reported bird positively to species.

Clark's Grebe (12-95-04) - A report of this species from December of 1995 was not accepted due to the inconclusiveness of the written documentation as to the species of the reported bird.

Manx Shearwater (05-97-03) - Due to the abbreviated documentation of consideration of similar species, a report of this species seen offshore in May of 1997 was not accepted.

Arctic Tern (06-98-14) - A report of an observation made offshore in early June of 1998 of this species was not accepted due to a lack of fine details in the written description to distinguish to species a member of this confusing genus.

Calliope Hummingbird (11-97-01) - A report of a female/immature of this species observed in Simpsonville in September of 1997 was not accepted due to a lack of documented diagnostic details in the written description to distinguish the reported bird from several related hummingbird species.

Bohemian Waxwing (03-98-06) - A report of three birds of this species was not accepted due to insufficient details in the written description.

Yellow Warbler (01-97-02) - A report of this species, seen in early January near Spartanburg, was not accepted due to a lack of fine detail in the written description and a less than rigorous elimination of more likely species.

Prothonotary Warbler (01-97-03) - Observed in early January from Spartanburg, a report of this species was not accepted due to insufficient details and the abbreviated written consideration given to several potentially confusing similar species.

Reports sent for outside review:

Trumpeter Swan (01-98-01) - The difficulty of identifying some immature swans to species occasioned enough non-accept votes to send this detailed report of an immature swan observed in southern Greenville county in January of 1998 to outside review. The report will be re-submitted to the committee for consideration.

Snowy Plover (01-97-01 & 01-97-02) - A pair of detailed reports of a bird observed at south Litchfield Beach in Georgetown county drew an indecisive vote from the committee and will be sent to outside review. The report will be re-submitted to the Committee for consideration.

American Tree Sparrow (03-97-01) - A bird of this species was observed at the end of March in 1997 in Beaverdam WMA near Townville. The report caused an indecisive vote from the committee and will be sent for outside review. The report will be re-submitted to the Committee for consideration.

Also included in committee work for this period were two reports, accompanied by photos, of birds not identified by the reporters. While the persistence of "mystery birds" in memory is admittedly frustrating, identification of such birds is outside the scope of the duties of the committee.

Will Cook
North Carolina Editor
PO Box 3066
Durham, NC 27715
cwcook@acpub.duke.edu

Dennis M. Forsythe
South Carolina Editor
Department of Biology
The Citadel
Charleston, SC 29409
forsythed@citadel.edu
(843) 953-7264
Fax: (803) 953-7084

First Record of Yellow-nosed Albatross for North Carolina

Michael Tove
303 Dunhagan Place
Cary, NC 27511

Brian Patteson
PO Box 772
Hatteras, NC 27943

On 5 February 2000, about 10:00, the authors and another two dozen observers (including Jamie Cameron, Derb Carter, Ricky Davis, John Fussell, and Harry LeGrand) located and studied a sub-adult Yellow-nosed Albatross (*Thalassarche chlororhynchos*) on a pelagic trip about 3 miles east of Salvo, Dare County, NC. The bird was first seen as it landed on the water, apparently having been flushed as the boat maneuvered to approach a Great Skua (*Stercorarius skua*) that was being observed. While swimming, the bird permitted close approach, affording us prolonged views within as little as 15 meters. Each time it flushed, it would fly a short distance and sit back down on the water. For about 10 minutes, we studied the bird in the air and on the water. It then flew to and landed among a large mass of gulls and gannets about 200 meters behind the boat and was not relocated.

The bird was immediately recognizable as an albatross by its extremely long, slender wings, short rounded tail, and long, saddle-shaped beak. Its body size was roughly intermediate between a Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*) and Northern Gannet (*Morus bassanus*). When it was sitting on the water, this size similarity made picking the bird out rather challenging. In flight, the wings were proportionately narrower and longer than those of a gannet and were parallel-edged fore and aft (Figure 1). In gliding flight, the wings were held in a distinct downward arc or bow.

The head was medium-light gray except for a white forehead and forecrown. There was moderate contrast between the darker head and white underparts. The eye was surrounded by a small wedge of black. The bill, longer than the head, was thicker at both base and tip than in the saddle-shaped middle.

It was black in color with a dirty lemon-yellow ridge (culminicorn) and a slightly reddish-black tip. The back and upperwings were dark gray, contrasting sharply with a white rump and, to a lesser extent, grayish head and neck. The primaries had white shaft bases that formed a series of short white streaks on the upper surface of the outerwing. The short, rounded tail was dark gray but paler than the back. The underwings were brilliant white with a narrow, well-defined blackish border, the leading edge being somewhat wider than the trailing. The underparts were white (Figure 2).

Figure 1. Yellow-nosed Albatross off North Carolina, dorsal view. Note the long, narrow wing profile, dark back and paler gray tail. Photo by Michael Tove.

The presence of a gray head is consistent with adult plumage. However, the dirty lemon-yellow culminicorn (as opposed to bright lemon-yellow) and tip mostly black with a slight reddish-orange cast (as opposed to bright reddish-orange) allowed the bird to be aged as a sub-adult.

There are two races of Yellow-nosed Albatross. The nominate *T. c. chlororhynchos* breeds in the southeastern Atlantic on Gough and the Tristan da Cunha island groups. It differs from the Indian Ocean form (*T. c. bassi*) in that the former has a gray head whereas the latter's head is white. The present bird was clearly a nominate *chlororhynchos*, as would be expected.

Yellow-nosed is the world's smallest species of albatross, whose measurements average barely larger than those of Great Black-backed Gull (Harrison 1983, 1987, Tipling & Enticott 1998). It is the second most abundant albatross species in the southern Atlantic after Black-browed (*T. melanophris*). It is also the most northerly distributed and the most frequently observed species off eastern North America (Patteson *et al.* 1999). In spite of this, it is appropriate that the documentation of such a record also eliminate all other similar species from consideration.

Figure 2. Yellow-nosed Albatross off North Carolina, ventral view. Note the grayish head, dark bill and narrow dark underwing borders, particularly along the trailing edge. Photo by Michael Tove.

Albatrosses are divided into several distinct sub-groups. The "mollymawks" (Genus *Thalassarche*) are southern albatrosses distinguished by white bodies and dark mantles. These include the rather large shy albatrosses (1-3 species depending on author) and four smaller, closely related species: Black-browed is the largest, followed by Buller's (*T. bulleri*), then Grey-headed (*T. chrysostoma*) and finally, Yellow-nosed. Black-browed is the only other species known from the northern Atlantic. Adult Black-broweds have a diagnostic

bright yellow bill and broad black underwing margins. Adult Buller's and Grey-headed have gray heads but a color much darker than the present bird, and Grey-headed lacks the white forecrown area. Both these species have yellow not only on the upper bill, but also the lower, a feature easily visible in the field (Tove, personal observations with Grey-headed). The present bird clearly had yellow only above. In addition, Buller's, a bird of the southern Pacific, has a broad black leading underwing edge and is noticeably larger-billed than Yellow-nosed. Grey-headed has very broad, dark underwing margins along the leading edge. None of these patterns matched that of the present bird.

Young Black-broweds have dusky bi-colored (not black) bills, sooty underwings and a distinct partial neck collar. Young Grey-headed and Buller's have white heads with distinct partial neck collars. These patterns were inconsistent with our bird.

In the northern Pacific, Laysan Albatross (*Phoebastria immutabilis*) superficially resembles this group. However, its bill is bi-colored flesh with a black tip and the underwing has a distinct "W" pattern formed by two blackish triangular patches on each wing.

The only other credible record of an albatross from North Carolina was by DuMont (1973) of two Black-broweds off Morehead City on 19 August 1972. There are, however, three other published claims of albatrosses from North Carolina waters, none of which was considered acceptable by the North Carolina Bird Records Committee (NCBRC). The first two, reported by Lee (1984, 1987, 1995, 1998), were initially described only as "albatross species." However, the descriptions offered were vague and inconclusive at best and included contradictory statements that cast doubt on their identity as any albatross species at all. In a third case, Lee (1998) cited an unpublished report of Yellow-nosed that was subsequently judged by the NCBRC to be a probable Northern Gannett and not accepted (LeGrand *et al.* 1998).

While the February 2000 sighting constitutes the first accepted record of Yellow-nosed Albatross from North Carolina (North Carolina Bird Records Committee 2002), its presence in North Carolina waters is not surprising. Of the two species known from eastern North America, Yellow-nosed is the more commonly observed (Patteson *et al.* 1999, Tove 2000).

While albatrosses are the quintessential pelagic bird, in the Atlantic they do not readily reach Northern Hemisphere waters. This is largely due to the broad equatorial band of tropical water that lack the tradewinds albatrosses favor for their flight. In spite of this, there is growing evidence that small numbers do routinely drift into northern Atlantic waters. In fact, the present sighting was the first of an unprecedented number of Yellow-nosed Albatross sightings from eastern North America during the first half of 2000.

On 1 May, a Yellow-nosed was seen in the northeastern Gulf of Mexico, about 50 miles west of Tarpon Springs, Florida (Pranty 2000). On 9 May, a full adult was photographed near Martha's Vineyard off Penikese Island, Massachusetts (Perkins 2000), and on that same date, another was seen near Fire Island, New York (Buckley and Schairer 2000). These two locations are 217 km apart. On 21 May, an adult was seen over the south end of the Garden State

Parkway, near Cape May, New Jersey and on 23 May, one was seen slightly south of that location at the Delaware Bayshore area (Burgiel *et al.* 2000). On 4 June, one was seen off South Kingston, Rhode Island, and on 5 June one was off nearby Nantucket Island, Massachusetts (Burgiel *et al.* 2000).

Burgiel *et al.* (2000) speculated that all these sightings (excluding Florida's) involved the same individual as in North Carolina. We find it difficult to accept this hypothesis. First, to suppose that the same individual was involved with both May 9 sightings would also suppose that the bird flew 217 km in less than 6 hours (the sighting times were 11:45 AM and 5:30 PM). This seems highly unlikely. In addition, while the North Carolina bird was a sub-adult, many, if not all, of the May-June reports involved full adults. It seems unlikely that the North Carolina bird would have achieved this high state of adult plumage by early May (recalling that May is "winter" for the species).

We feel that the February through June sightings probably involved not fewer than four and very possibly five or more different individuals as follows: one, possibly two individuals off Massachusetts and Rhode Island, one off New York and possibly that or a different individual off New Jersey. In addition, we are unconvinced that any of these sightings was the same individual as the North Carolina bird and certainly, a different individual was seen in the Gulf of Mexico of Florida.

Finally, it is noteworthy that single Yellow-noseds were seen off Matinicus Rock in Maine on 6 July 1999 (Peterson 1999), off New Brunswick, Nova Scotia on 24 May 1993 (Maybank 1993) and again off New Brunswick on 20 June 1993 (Mactavish 1993). In addition, Patteson *et al.* (1999) photographed a young Black-browed at Norfolk Canyon, Virginia, on 6 February 1999. The question is whether this surge of sightings is an artifact of more intensive searching or related to some non-random factor. Certainly, the recent El Nino/La Nina phenomenon could have influenced movements of albatrosses. However, at this time, any connection would be purely speculative.

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Birds of the Carolinas
Student Research Grants Program

The Carolina Bird Club's Birds of the Carolinas Research Grants Program provides funding for undergraduate and graduate students in North Carolina and South Carolina. The program is funded through the generosity of the authors of *Birds of the Carolinas* (Eloise F. Potter, James F. Parnell, and Robert P. Teulings). Application deadlines and other details will be announced via mail to North Carolina and South Carolina institutions and on the Carolina Bird Club web site.

BRIEFS FOR THE FILES

Ricky Davis
608 Smallwood Drive
Rocky Mount, NC 27804
RJDNC@aol.com

All Dates Winter 2001 - 2002

Briefs for the Files is a seasonal collection of uncommon-to-rare or unusual North and South Carolina bird sightings and events which do not necessarily require a more detailed Field Note or article. Reports of your sightings are due the 20th of the month after the end of the previous season.

Winter = December 1 - February 28, due March 20
Spring = March 1 - May 31, due June 20
Summer = June 1 - July 31, due August 20
Fall = August 1 - November 30, due December 20

Reports can be submitted in any format, but I prefer that you type them and list the sightings according to the birds in checklist order (not according to dates or locations). If you submit your report to me through e-mail, please type your report directly into the message or copy it from a word processing program directly into the message. You may also attach your file to the e-mail, but if you do, please let me know the program used and also send a second version saved as a text (txt.) file.

Suitable reports for the Briefs include any sightings you feel are unusual, rare, noteworthy, or just plain interesting to you in any way! It is my responsibility to decide which reports merit inclusion in the Briefs.

Please be sure to include details of any rare or hard-to-identify birds.

I rely in part on sightings reported in Carolinabirds. Please don't, however, rely on me to pick up your sightings from Carolinabirds. Instead, please also send your sightings directly to me as described above.

If I feel that your sighting warrants a Field Note, I will contact either you or the appropriate state Field Notes editor. You may, of course, submit your Field Note directly to the editor without going through me.

HORNED GREBE: Rare mountain occurrences included 8 on L. Julian, NC, Dec. 11 (Wayne Forsythe) and one at Brevard, NC, Dec. 12 (Bill and Norma Siebenheller, Bill Lovejoy).

RED-NECKED GREBE: This species was reported only twice, with individuals at Nags Head, NC, Dec. 2 (Russ and Patricia Tyndall) and on Lake

Wateree, SC, Jan. 5 (Lex Glover, sev. obs.). The latter bird provided a very rare inland sighting for that state.

EARED GREBE: The best counts included nine on the Sun City-Okatie, SC, C.B.C. Dec. 16 (*fide* Helen Chatterton) and seven at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper County, SC, Jan. 5 (Steve Calver). Others included singles at C. Hatteras, NC, Feb. 17 (Scott Baron) and on Clark's Hill Reservoir, near Parksville, SC, Feb. 18 (Paul Champlin).

WESTERN GREBE: A Western found in the surf near Duck, NC, Jan. 26 (Derb Carter, Jeff Pippen, Lex Glover, Chris Moorman) provided about the 7th report for that state. The bird was not to be relocated the next day, however.

NORTHERN FULMAR: The peak count observed offshore this winter was 136 off Hatteras, NC, Feb. 16 (Brian Patteson *et al.*). Much rarer and unusual nearshore, one was observed sitting in the water just off the beach at Shackleford Bank, Carteret County, NC, Feb. 12, as noted by Robin Baird.

MANX SHEARWATER: The peak count for this species off North Carolina was seven off Hatteras Jan. 26 (Patteson *et al.*).

NORTHERN GANNET: Gannets were in Carolina waters in force this winter, as evidenced by several high counts. The best was an amazing 22,000 on the Bodie-Pea Islands, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 28 (*fide* Paul Sykes).

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN: Continuing their presence from the fall season, large numbers of this species were in the Beaufort County, SC area, with the best count being 250 in an old rice field along US 17 in December (Dennis Forsythe). A good count of 175 was had on the ACE Basin, SC, C.B.C. Dec. 30 (*fide* Pete Laurie). The Lake Mattamuskeet, NC flock, present from the fall, peaked at 15 birds in early December (Kelly Davis), and one was still there as late as Feb. 18 (Kent Fiala). Elsewhere, sixteen were at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, Dec. 3 (Steve Calver), five were at Bear Island, SC, Feb. 8 (Donna Bailey and Sharon Brown), and one was at Pawleys Island, SC, Dec. 16 (Gary Phillips and Ritch Lilly).

ANHINGA: Noteworthy winter reports included one along the NE Cape Fear River, near Rocky Point, Pender County, NC, in late December (Chris Helms), and two were on the Greenville, NC, C.B.C. Jan. 5 (*fide* John Wright).

GREAT EGRET: One at Greensboro, NC, Dec. 15 (Henry and Elizabeth Link) was quite rare that far inland during the winter season.

GREEN HERON: This winter's reports included singles at Pineville, NC, Dec.7 (John Buckman), on the Bodie-Pea Islands, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 28 (Harry Armistead), on the Morehead City, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 16 (John Fussell, Jack Fennell, Ricky Davis), and on the Sun City-Okatie, SC, C.B.C. Dec. 16 (*fide* Helen Chatterton).

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON: Very rare in winter in North Carolina, one was a good find at L. Mattamuskeet, NC, Dec. 1 (Rich and Susan Boyd). Less rare but still noteworthy in coastal South Carolina, one was on the Charleston C.B.C. Dec. 23 (*fide* Ed Blitch), and three were on the ACE Basin C.B.C. Dec. 30 (*fide* Pete Laurie).

WHITE IBIS: An excellent count of 176 White Ibis was had on the L. Mattamuskeet, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 29 (*fide* Allen Bryan).

GLOSSY IBIS: Rare in winter in North Carolina, this species was present at L. Mattamuskeet during December. Two were there Dec. 1 (Rich and Susan Boyd), and four were found on the C.B.C. Dec. 29 (Will Cook *et al.*).
WOOD STORK: Normally very rare in the Coastal Plain in winter, this species was present at Santee N.W.R., SC, during December, with up to five during most of the month. One was still there as late as Jan. 1 (Lex Glover).
GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE: Always noteworthy anywhere in the Carolinas, this winter's birds involved singles at Whispering Pines, NC, from late Nov. until early Feb. (Susan Campbell), at Santee N.W.R., SC, Dec. 29 (Lex Glover *et al.*) until Jan. 28 (Donna Bailey and Sharon Brown), and at Myrtle Beach, SC, Feb. 7 (Ritch Lilly).
ROSS'S GOOSE: This species was well-represented in the Carolinas this winter. One was present at Pea Island N.W.R., NC, from the fall until at least Jan. 27 (sev. obs.). At Santee N.W.R., SC, several were present during the winter, with a peak of three Jan. 28 (Dennis Forsythe *et al.*). Much rarer and unexpected were singles near Garysburg, Northampton County, NC, Dec. 27 (Elisa Enders) and near Southport, NC, Jan. 5-12 (Greg Massey, Bruce Smithson, sev. obs.).
TUNDRA SWAN: This species continues to increase in numbers and to winter farther inland away from the usual northeastern North Carolina areas. One was very rare and unusual in the mountains at L. Julian, Buncombe County, NC, Dec. 25 (Wayne Forsythe, Ben and Carol Ringer). And one was out of habitat when seen sitting on the ocean out beyond the surf near Duck, NC, Jan. 26 (Jeff Pippen, Derb Carter, Lex Glover, Chris Moorman)!
EURASIAN WIGEON: In North Carolina this species was present at several usual locations. Peak counts included two at Pea Island N.W.R. Dec. 21 (Harry LeGrand), three on the L. Mattamuskeet C.B.C. Dec. 29 (Gene Howe and Ricky Davis), and three at Greenfield Lake, Wilmington, NC, Dec. 30 (*fide* Sam Cooper).
AMERICAN BLACK DUCK: Unusual in the mountains in winter, two on the Stone Mountain, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 29 (Jim Keighton) and eight on L. Osceola, Henderson County, NC, Dec. 27 (Ron Selvey) were notable.
CINNAMON TEAL: One was again present at Savannah N.W.R., SC, this winter. First found Dec. 8 (Tim Kalbach, Diana Churchill *et al.*), it was last observed Feb. 16 (Donna Bailey *et al.*).
NORTHERN SHOVELER: A good count for the mountains, seven Shovelers were found at L. Osceola, NC, Feb. 28 (Wayne Forsythe). Another impressive count was the 2,220 at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, Jan. 5 (Steve Calver).
LESSER SCAUP: Unusual during a down year for waterfowl, an amazing count of 10,526 Lessers was had on a Camp Lejeune, NC, count Dec. 15 (Sue Cameron *et al.*). Flocks of this size are not common in North Carolina waters.
COMMON EIDER: Only one report was received this winter, that being an immature male at Morehead City, NC, Feb. 12 (JoAnne Powell *et al, fide* John Fussell).

SURF SCOTER: Always good finds inland, three were on Lookout Shoals Lake, NC, Dec. 9 (Dwayne Martin), and one was at Greenville, NC, Jan. 4 (Howard Vainwright).

COMMON MERGANSER: Numbers of this merganser were down this winter. The best reports received were of two on the Jordan Lake, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 30 (Will Cook and Judy Teague), two at Salem Lake, Forsyth County, NC, Jan. 12-18 (Ramona Snavely *et al.*), and one far to the south on the Hilton Head Island, SC, C.B.C. Dec. 15 (*fide* Barry Lowes).

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER: Locally rare were three on the New River, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 22 (Jim Keighton). Also a peak of 36 in Henderson County, NC, Dec. 10 (Wayne Forsythe) was quite notable for that mountains area.

OSPREY: Very rare inland in winter, Ospreys were found at several locations in the Carolinas. Singles were at Jordan Lake, NC, Dec. 14 (Dan Kaplan), on the Raven Rock State Park, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 15 (Paul Hart), on the Southern Lake Norman, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 16 (*fide* Taylor Piephoff), and on the Carolina Sandhills, SC, C.B.C. Dec. 30 (*fide* Kay McCutcheon).

NORTHERN HARRIER: Large numbers of Harriers were present at Alligator River N.W.R., NC this winter. A count of 63 was had on the C.B.C. Dec. 16 (*fide* Jeff Lewis), and another count of 65 was made later in January (Bryan Watts, *fide* Ned Brinkley). Of interest, during the latter count, the birds were found in two communal roosts!

NORTHERN GOSHAWK: A well-described immature Goshawk was a good find at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC, Dec. 7, as noted by Harvey Neal, Ron Selvey, and John Lindfors.

BROAD-WINGED HAWK: North of southern Florida, this species is extremely rare in the southeastern US in the winter. Possibly due to the mild fall and early winter conditions, there were a couple of reports this season. One was found on the Alligator River N.W.R., NC, C.B.C. Dec. 16 (Kim King-Wrenn), and two were on the Iredell County, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 16 (Sam Cathey, Dwayne & Lori Martin *et al.*). Observers need to remember that any report of this species should include complete and thorough details.

ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK: The Alligator River N.W.R., NC, area once again hosted several individuals this winter. One was present from the fall and was joined by a second by Dec. 22 (m. obs.). These were joined by a third Jan. 27 (Derb Carter and Jeff Pippen). Of interest, the third bird was one of the dark phase individuals, which is much rarer in the Carolinas than the light phase. Elsewhere one was south of Harrisburg, Cabarrus County, NC, Dec. 23 (*fide* Eric Harrold), for an excellent local report.

GOLDEN EAGLE: The Golden Eagle was well-reported in North Carolina this winter. Adults were found at L. Mattamuskeet Dec. 6 (David Disher *et al.*) and on the New River C.B.C. Dec. 22 (Eric Harrold and Allen Boynton). Immature birds included one in Tyrrell County Dec. 2 (Jeff Lewis) and one at Alligator River N.W.R. Dec. 8 (Disher *et al.*).

MERLIN: Inland Merlins were reported more than normal this winter. In North Carolina, singles were at Hooper Lane, Dec. 31 (Wayne Forsythe and Ron Selvey), on the Iredell County C.B.C. Dec. 16 (*fide* Sam Cathey), in

Forsyth County Dec. 1 (Doug and Pam DeNeve, *fide* Ramona Snavely), at Pinebluff, Moore County Dec. 19 (Harry LeGrand), on the Durham C.B.C. Dec. 16 (Norm Budnitz *et al.*), and on the Wayne County C.B.C. Dec. 15 (*fide* Eric Dean). In South Carolina, one was on the Santee N.W.R. C.B.C. Dec. 29 (*fide* Lex Glover).

BLACK RAIL: One was a good find at Sunset Beach, NC, along the waterway at Twin Lakes Dec. 8 (Jeff Pippen).

COMMON MOORHEN: An immature was rare inland and late at L. Wackena, Wayne County, NC, Dec. 15, as noted by Ricky Davis and Harry LeGrand.

SANDHILL CRANE: Always noteworthy in the Carolinas, Sandhill Crane reports involved four at Pee Dee N.W.R., NC, Jan. 13-18 (Barbara Gearhart), three along the North River, Carteret County, NC, Dec. 16 (Doug Wolfe *et al.*, *fide* John Fussell), two near Edenton, NC, Jan. 14-20 (Ginny Gillam, John Daughtry), and two on the Santee N.W.R., SC, C.B.C. Dec. 29-Jan. 1(Lex Glover *et al.*). Also in the mountains, one was in Hendersonville, NC, Jan. 26 (Ben Ringer and Wayne Forsythe), and another one was present near Rosman, Transylvania County, NC, Jan. 27 until spring (Bill and Norma Siebenheller).

AMERICAN GOLDEN-PLOVER: One was rather late at South Pond, Pea Island N.W.R., NC, Dec. 5 (Brian Patteson).

WILSON'S PLOVER: Noteworthy winter sightings included one on the Southport, NC, C.B.C. Jan. 5 (Mark Galizio *et al.*) and two on the Charleston, SC, C.B.C. Dec. 23 (*fide* Ed Blitch).

AMERICAN AVOCET: Good numbers of this species were present at Pea Island N.W.R., NC, this season. An impressive count of 500 was had there Dec. 8 (Jeff Lewis), and 434 were counted on the Bodie-Pea Islands C.B.C. Dec. 28 (*fide* Paul Sykes). Elsewhere a count of 52 Avocets was had at L. Mattamuskeet, NC, on the C.B.C. Dec. 29 (*fide* Allen Bryan). This was a very high count for a location away from the usual Outer Banks areas.

GREATER YELLOWLEGS: Good inland winter sightings included singles on the Southern Lake Norman, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 16 (Taylor Piephoff), on the Chapel Hill, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 23 (Doug Shadwick), on the Jordan Lake, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 30 (*fide* Norm Budnitz), and at St. Andrews College, Laurinburg, NC, Jan. 4 (Barbara Gearhart). In South Carolina, 23 was an excellent count on the Long Cane C.B.C. Dec. 22 (*fide* Steve Wagner).

LESSER YELLOWLEGS: This species is normally rarer in winter inland than the preceding species. This season reports involved an impressive count of 35 on the Wayne County, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 15 (*fide* Eric Dean), nine on the Long Cane, SC, C.B.C. Dec. 22 (*fide* Steve Wagner), one on the Cumberland County, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 26 (*fide* Hal Broadfoot), and one on the Charlotte, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 29 (Ken Kneidel).

SOLITARY SANDPIPER: One was found on the Long Cane, SC, C.B.C. Dec. 22 (Steve Wagner), for a very rare and unexpected sighting. Winter Solitaries are extremely unusual in the Carolinas. Amazingly, one, most certainly the same bird, was at the same location last year!

SPOTTED SANDPIPER: This species often winters along the immediate coast in small numbers. Of note this year were a couple of inland sightings, including singles on the Santee N.W.R., SC, C.B.C. Dec. 29 (*fide* Lex Glover) and on the Spartanburg, SC, C.B.C. Dec. 28 (*fide* Lyle Campbell).
WESTERN SANDPIPER: Good inland winter sightings were the five on the Wayne County, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 15 (*fide* Eric Dean) and the impressive count of 55 on the L. Mattamuskeet, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 29 (*fide* Allen Bryan).
LEAST SANDPIPER: The L. Mattamuskeet, NC, C.B.C Dec. 29, had impressive numbers of this sandpiper, when 338 were tallied (*fide* Allen Bryan).
PURPLE SANDPIPER: An impressive count of 200 Purples was had at the Murrells Inlet, SC, jetties Feb. 18, as noted by Bob and Barbara Maxwell. Locally noteworthy were three at Ft. Fisher, NC, Dec. 1 (Jeff Lewis) and three on the C. Hatteras, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 27 (*fide* Pat Moore).
DUNLIN: The 17 Dunlin on the Long Cane, SC, C.B.C. Dec. 22 (*fide* Steve Wagner) provided a good count for that location. But the 1,759 tallied on the L. Mattamuskeet, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 29 (*fide* Allen Bryan) was truly astounding for an "inland" area.
CURLEW SANDPIPER: One at South Pond, Pea Island N.W.R., NC, Dec. 5 (Brian Patteson) was quite late and unexpected. This species has been hard to find in the Carolinas the last several years.
STILT SANDPIPER: The wintering Stilt Sandpipers at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper County, SC, were down this winter. The peak was only three, noted on Jan. 5 (Steve Calver).
RUFF: Totally unexpected and extremely rare in winter, one was found on the Wayne County, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 15 (John Wright *et al.*). There was only one other winter report for that state, that being one found on at L. Mattamuskeet, NC, in 1991.
RED PHALAROPE: A pelagic trip out of Hatteras, NC, Jan. 26 officially tallied 3,765 individuals of this species (Patteson *et al.*). This was the best total for the Carolinas since the massive invasion of phalaropes in 1989 along North Carolina's central coast, when upwards of 10,000 were estimated.
GREAT SKUA: As usual, North Carolina pelagic trips produced this species when three were found out of Hatteras on both Jan. 26 and Feb. 16 (Patteson *et al.*).
POMARINE JAEGER: Only one was reported from shore this winter, that being on the Litchfield-Pawleys Island, SC, C.B.C. Jan. 2 (Perry Nugent *et al.*).
PARASITIC JAEGER: This species is usually more numerous near shore in winter than Pomarine Jaeger. This season's Parasitics included two near Kitty Hawk, NC, Jan. 26 (Jeff Pippen, Derb Carter, Lex Glover, Chris Moorman) and one on the Litchfield-Pawleys Island, SC, C.B.C. Jan. 2 (Perry Nugent *et al.*).
LITTLE GULL: Two to three off Hatteras, NC, Feb. 16 (Patteson *et al.*) were expected. Much rarer and locally unusual was one well-described Little at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, Dec. 5 (Steve Calver and Pete Range). Reports of this species in that state are very rare.
BLACK-HEADED GULL: One was a surprise at the L. Mattamuskeet, NC, causeway Jan 19-28 (Rick Payne *et al.*, Kelly Davis, m. obs.). This was one of

the very few found away from the immediate coast in our area. Another one, possibly the same bird, was at Oregon Inlet, NC, Jan. 30, as noted by Jeff Lewis.

CALIFORNIA GULL: In North Carolina there were three reports of this now annual gull. An adult was at South Pond, Pea Island N.W.R. Jan. 5 (Jeff Lewis), a 3rd year bird was at Southern Shores, Dare County Jan. 12 (Lewis), and an adult was at C. Hatteras point Feb. 17 (Ricky Davis).

THAYER'S GULL: One of our rarer gulls, Thayer's sightings included two on the C. Hatteras, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 27 (Brian Patteson) and an adult at C. Hatteras Point Feb. 17 (Ricky Davis).

ICELAND GULL: Always good finds in our area, a 1st winter bird was found following the Cedar Island-Ocracoke, NC, ferry Feb. 16-18 (Brian Van Druten), and an adult was offshore out of Hatteras, NC, Feb. 16 (Brian Patteson *et al.*).

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL: Once again the Falls Lake, NC, area hosted good numbers of this gull. The peak was an amazing count of 11 on the Falls Lake C.B.C. Dec. 29 (*fide* Brian Bockhahn). Practically all of these birds were found at the local landfill. Elsewhere singles included a 1st winter on the lake Dec. 9 (Ricky Davis), one on the Durham C.B.C. Dec. 16 (*fide* Mike Schultz), and an adult on the lake Jan. 12 (Bruce Young *et al.*).

GLAUCOUS GULL: This species was found less than usual this winter, with only two reports received. An adult was found offshore out of Hatteras, NC, Feb. 16 (Patteson *et al.*), and a 1st winter bird was on the beach at Bald Head Island, NC, Feb. 18 (Greg Massey).

GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL: Another gull being found in good numbers inland, Great Black-backeds peaked at 12 on the Falls Lake, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 29 (*fide* Bockhahn). Also at that lake, a 2nd winter was found Dec. 9 (Ricky Davis), and an adult was there Jan. 12 (Young *et al.*).

CASPIAN TERN: One was late and rather far to the north at Kitty Hawk, NC, Dec. 15 (Marcia Lyons). Most winter Caspians are found in the southern coastal areas.

SANDWICH TERN: This species normally is gone from the Carolinas by winter. Probably owing to the mild fall conditions, impressive numbers were found in southern South Carolina. An amazing count of 10 was on the Sun City-Okatie C.B.C. Dec. 16 (*fide* Helen Chatterton), and four were on the Hilton Head Island C.B.C. Dec. 15 (*fide* Barry Lowes).

COMMON TERN: One was quite early at Bear Island, SC, Feb. 8, as noted by Donna Bailey and Sharon Brown.

BLACK SKIMMER: Two were good finds along the L. Mattamuskeet, NC, causeway Jan. 20 (Kelly Davis). This species is only rarely found away from the immediate coast.

RAZORBILL: There were very few Razorbills present this winter. Offshore out of Hatteras, NC, ten were found on Jan. 26, and three were counted Feb. 16 (Patteson *et al.*). Only one onshore report was of a single at Wrightsville Beach, NC, Jan. 9 (*fide* Will Cook).

WHITE-WINGED DOVE: The Beaufort, NC bird remained throughout the period (John Fussell, Rich and Susan Boyd). This bird has been present for a

couple of years now. Elsewhere, one at Goldsboro, NC, Jan. 5 (Mary Bridges) was a good find, especially away from the coast.

SNOWY OWL: The Ft. Fisher, NC, bird first found in late November was present until at least Dec. 3 (sev. obs.).

BARRED OWL: This owl of the woodlands turned up in some unusual places this winter. One was found on the lawn(!) at Ft. Caswell, NC, Dec. 5 (Jeff Pippen and Will Cook). Another was present in downtown Morehead City, NC, Dec. 22, as noted by John Fussell. Is December a time of normal wandering by this species?

WHIP-POOR-WILL: This species normally winters along the immediate coast in small numbers. This year one was on the Morehead City, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 16 (John Fussell), and three were on the Sun City-Okatie, SC, C.B.C. Dec. 16 (*fide* Helen Chatterton).

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD: This species wintered as usual at several coastal sites. One inland all winter at Hillsborough, NC, was more unusual (*fide* Susan Campbell).

BLACK-CHINNED HUMMINGBIRD: For the second year in a row, good numbers of this species were documented in the Carolinas. In South Carolina, an immature male was banded at Lexington in February (Bill HIlton, Jr.), an immature female was banded at Pelion Jan. 12 (Gary Phillips), and an immature male was banded at Murrells Inlet Dec. 26 (Phillips). In North Carolina, an adult female was recaptured in Wilmington Jan. 18 (Susan Campbell). This individual had been banded at Pawleys Island, SC, during the fall! Also a female was seen at Ocracoke Dec. 28-30 (Jeff Beane, Stephanie Horton, John Finnegan) but was not banded.

CALLIOPE HUMMINGBIRD: This species was also well-reported this winter. An immature male was present at a Winston-Salem, NC feeder Dec. 16 until the spring (*fide* Susan Campbell). An immature male was banded at Gastonia, NC, Jan. 5 (Bill Hilton Jr.), and one was banded in Bethany, York County, SC, Dec. 22 (Hilton).

RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD: This species was once again found numerous times in both states. Of note were several recaptures. A male and female returned for the second year in Pender County, NC, and a female returned for the third year in Cleveland County, NC (Susan Campbell).

HAIRY WOODPECKER: One was locally rare on the C. Hatteras, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 27 (Marcia Lyons). This species is normally very hard to find on the Outer Banks.

ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER: One was an excellent find on the Alligator R. N.W.R., NC, C.B.C. Dec. 16 (Josh Rose, Jeff Lewis). This bird, about the 6th for that state, remained until at least Jan. 26 (Susan Boyd) and was seen by many.

WESTERN KINGBIRD: This species was found more than usual this winter. Two near Salvo, NC, Dec. 8 (David Disher *et al.*) were probably late migrants. Amazing was a flock of up to three on Roanoke Island, NC, Dec. 15, with at least two remaining until Jan. 8 (Marlene Schum, Jeff Lewis, m. obs.). Also one

was present at Alligator River N.W.R., NC, Jan. 26 (Van Atkins *et al.*) until at least Feb. 3 (Haven Wiley *et al.*).

WHITE-EYED VIREO: Good inland reports included singles on the Raleigh, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 15 (*fide* John Connors), at Durham, NC, Jan. 21 (Dan Kaplan), and two on the Congaree Swamp, SC, C.B.C. Dec. 16 (Robin Carter).

COMMON RAVEN: This species has recently been found in certain upper Piedmont locations. This season two were again present northeast of Lexington, NC, Jan. 2 (Joe Poston) in the same area where one was found last year. Also one was observed on the UNC-Charlote, NC, campus in late February (Eric Harrold).

HORNED LARK: Noteworthy rare reports from the fringes of their normal range included an impressive count of 20 near North River, Carteret County, NC, Dec. 9-16 (John Fussell, Jack Fennell), two on Baldhead Island, NC, Feb. 25 (Greg Massey), and two in Horry County, SC, Jan. 22 (Jack Peachey).

BARN SWALLOW: The only late Barn Swallow found this winter was the one on the L. Mattamuskeet, NC. C.B.C. Dec. 29 (*fide* Allen Bryan).

HOUSE WREN: One on the New River, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 22 (*fide* James Coman) was an excellent find for that mountain locality. This species normally retreats to the Coastal Plain during winter.

SEDGE WREN: Noteworthy inland winter finds included two on the Raleigh, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 15 (*fide* John Connors) and one on the Southern Pines, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 16 (*fide* Susan Campbell).

GRAY CATBIRD: Normally wintering only in the Coastal Plain, this species was found far inland this season. Good finds were one on the Falls Lake, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 29 (*fide* Brian Bockhahn), two on the Southern L. Norman, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 16 (*fide* Taylor Piephoff), and one at Beaver Lake, Asheville, NC, Dec. 1 (Tim Lewis *et al.*). Of particular note, one wintered at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC, Dec. 12 until at least Jan. 16 (John Lindfors).

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER: Orange-crowneds rarely winter away from the Coastal Plain in the Carolinas. This season one was at Jordan Lake, NC, Dec. 1 (Jeff Pippen and Toni Rexrode), two were on the Raven Rock, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 15 (Paul Hart), one was near Roanoke Rapids Lake, NC, Jan. 21 (Elisa Enders *et al.*), and one was present at a feeder in Simpsonville, SC, from early February until the spring (Pete Worthington).

NORTHERN PARULA: Very rare in winter in the Carolinas, singles were excellent finds on the C. Hatteras, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 27 (Paul Sykes) and at L. Wheeler, Wake County, NC, Jan. 19 (Dave Murdock).

BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER: One that was present from the fall season wintered on Roanoke Island, NC, until at least Jan. 11 (Jeff Lewis). Although this species is often a late fall migrant, individuals rarely remain for the winter.

YELLOW-RUMPED "AUDUBON'S" WARBLER: One was a lucky find amongst the hordes of "Myrtle" Warblers on the C. Hatteras, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 27 (Paul Sykes). One wonders just how many individuals of this western form go undetected in the huge "Myrtle" flocks present each winter?

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER: One of the rarer winter warblers, good finds were two on the C. Hatteras, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 27 (Paul Sykes), three on the Santee, SC, C.B.C. Dec. 29 (*fide* Lex Glover), and one at the Savannah River Site, SC, Dec. 19 (Paul Champlin *et al.*).

BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER: Noteworthy in winter in the Piedmont, one was at L. Wheeler, Wake County, NC, Dec. 7 (Mark Johns), one was on the Durham, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 16 (*fide* Mike Schultz), and two were on the Jordan Lake, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 30 (*fide* Norm Budnitz).

AMERICAN REDSTART: A female was a surprise at Edisto Island, SC, Dec. 25, as noted by Sidney Gauthreaux, Jr. This is one of the rarest warblers to be found in the Carolinas in winter.

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER: One was absurdly early at Hilton Head Island, SC, on Feb. 25 (Ellen Mintzer, *fide* Lex Glover). Amazingly though, this was still two days after the earliest known returning date for that state!

WORM-EATING WARBLER: One was well described from a yard near Raleigh, NC, Dec. 16 (Tom Wentworth and Linda Rudd, *fide* John Gerwin). Obviously an extremely late fall individual, this is most certainly a record late date for the species in North Carolina.

OVENBIRD: One on Ocracoke Island, NC, Dec. 31 (Jeff Beane *et al.*) was a good find away from the usual Buxton, NC, wintering population.

NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH: Always noteworthy in the Carolinas in winter, one was present at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, Dec. 5 - Jan. 5 (Steve Calver).

WILSON'S WARBLER: This species is usually present somewhere in the Carolinas each winter. This season two separate individuals were found on the Wilmington, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 30 (John Brunjes *et al.*).

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT: North Carolina had several reports this winter. Two were on the Southport C.B.C. Jan. 5 (Greg Massey and Bruce Smithson), one was at Morehead City Dec. 25 (John Fussell), one was at Washington Dec. 31 (John Register), and one was at Gloucester, Carteret County in February (*fide* Fussell).

WESTERN TANAGER: Only one report was received this winter. One was at a New Bern, NC, feeder Feb. 6 - March 2, which amazingly was joined by a second individual there Feb. 27 (Fred Thompson and Wade Fuller).

BACHMAN'S SPARROW: The only winter reports received involved two on a count at Camp Lejeune, NC, Dec. 15 (*fide* Sue Cameron) and three at the Savannah River Site, SC, Dec. 19 (Paul Champlin).

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW: Clay-coloreds are usually found somewhere in the Carolinas each winter. This year only one was found, that being at the Conway, SC, Wastewater Treatment Plant Jan. 22 (Jack Peachey).

LARK SPARROW: Always a good find in our area in winter, two were on the Wayne County, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 15 (Russ and Patricia Tyndall, Ricky Davis), and one was near Figure Eight Island, NC, Jan. 27 (Barbara Gearhart).

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW: Always noteworthy in winter, this season's sightings included an impressive count of seven on the Alligator River N.W.R., NC, C.B.C. Dec. 16 (Jeff Lewis), one at the Samworth W.M.A., SC, Dec. 9

(Jack Peachey and Paul Rogers), one on the Southport, NC, C.B.C. Jan. 5 (Greg Massey), and one at Santee N.W.R., SC, Jan. 27 (Mike Turner).

HENSLOW'S SPARROW: Only one report of note, an impressive count of eight Henslow's was had on the Savannah River Site, SC, Dec. 19 (Paul Champlin *et al.*).

LeCONTE'S SPARROW: After last year's good number of LeConte's reported, this year one at Santee N.W.R., SC, Jan. 27 (MIke Turner) was surprisingly the only one found.

FOX SPARROW: One of the "gray-faced" forms of this sparrow was present in a yard in Southern Pines, NC, Jan. 3 until the early spring (Wayne Irvin). Anything other than the usual "red-faced" eastern form in the Carolinas is extremely unusual.

LINCOLN'S SPARROW: Once again this species was found across the Carolinas, with too many reports to mention all. Some of the better counts included three on the Southport, NC, C.B.C. Jan. 5 (Greg Massey), two at Savannah N.W.R., SC, Feb. 16 (Donna Bailey *et al.*), and two on the Clemson, SC, C.B.C. Dec. 15 (*fide* Drew Lanham). Other good reports away from the usual Coastal Plain wintering range included one on the Falls Lake, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 29 (*fide* Brian Bockhahn) and one far inland on the Mount Jefferson, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 15 (James Coman).

LAPLAND LONGSPUR: Noteworthy Lapland reports included up to six near the North River, Carteret County, NC, Dec. 9 (John Fussell and Jack Fennell), with 1-2 still present Dec. 16 (Russ and Patricia Tyndall); and two near Conway, SC, Dec. 31 - Jan. 1 (Stephen Thomas).

SNOW BUNTING: One found somewhat inland on the Greenville, NC, C.B.C. Jan. 5 (Ken Harrell) was an excellent find. Another at Oregon Inlet, NC, Dec. 2 (Russ and Patricia Tyndall) was more expected at the coast.

INDIGO BUNTING: Very rare in winter in the Carolinas, singles on the Morehead City, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 16 (John and Paula Wright) and the C. Hatteras, NC, C.B.C. Dec. 27 (Harry Armistead) were good finds.

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD: Only one was reported this winter, that being an adult male in a yard in Georgetown, SC, Jan. 17 (Ken Maxwell).

BREWER'S BLACKBIRD: One of the most local and hard to find birds in our area, Brewer's were found at a couple of usual locations. A good count of 22 was on the Clemson, SC, C.B.C. Dec. 15 (*fide* Drew Lanham), and at least 15 were present in Carteret County, NC, Dec. 20 - 28 (John Fussell, Russ and Patricia Tyndall).

WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL: This very rare species in the Carolinas caused much excitement at Grandfather Mt., NC, where a flock of at least 14 was present near the museum Dec. 8 (Dwayne and Lori Martin) until at least Dec. 29 (m. obs.). Also several Red Crossbills were seen in the area throughout the period, thereby giving observers a great opportunity to compare the two.

COMMON REDPOLL: The Common Redpoll is one of the rarest finches in the Carolinas. This winter one was an excellent find at Pea Island, NC, on the C.B.C. Dec. 28 (Jim Beard, Matt Sharp, Wayne Irvin).

BRIEFS FOR THE FILES

Ricky Davis
608 Smallwood Drive
Rocky Mount, NC 27804
RJDNC@aol.com

All Dates Spring 2002

EARED GREBE: One in alternate plumage was a good find at Salem Lake, Forsyth County, NC, March 23 (Ramona Snavely *et al.*). Also the peak spring count at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper County, SC, was four on April 1 (Steve Calver).

HERALD PETREL: This species was present off North Carolina's Outer Banks in good numbers this spring. The peak count was of three off Hatteras May 26, and from one to two birds were seen on six other trips during the period May 24 - 31 (Brian Patteson *et al.*).

FEA'S PETREL: This rare petrel was also seen several times, with two off Hatteras May 27, one off Manteo May 27, and one off Manteo May 31 (Patteson *et al.*).

BERMUDA PETREL: This endangered species was found again this spring when two were off Hatteras May 27 (Patteson *et al.*).

BLACK-CAPPED PETREL: Two were good finds out of Murrells Inlet, SC, May 11 (Murray Honick). The peak North Carolina total was of 146 off Hatteras May 27 (Patteson *et al.*).

MANX SHEARWATER: A pelagic trip out of Hatteras March 9 produced an amazing total of 66 Manxes, the highest one-day count for the state in many years (Patteson *et al.*). Late spring pelagic Manxes included one off Manteo May 24 and two off Manteo May 31 (Patteson *et al.*). One was also seen from shore at Nags Head, NC, in late May (*fide* Ned Brinkley).

LEACH'S STORM-PETREL: One was found dead on the beach at Ft. Macon, Carteret County, NC, April 15 (John Fussell). There had been several days of easterly winds, and considerable *Sargassum* had washed up on the beach also.

BAND-RUMPED STORM-PETREL: The peak count this spring was 40 off Hatteras May 27 (Patteson *et al.).*

WHITE-TAILED TROPICBIRD: Only one was found this spring, that being off Manteo May 31 (Patteson et al.).

RED-BILLED TROPICBIRD: This rare pelagic species was a good find out of Manteo May 31 (Patteson *et al.*). It had been a couple of years since Red-billeds had been found in North Carolina waters.

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN: An excellent count of 18 was had at L. Mattamuskeet, NC, March 9 (Allen Bryan). This species had been present in that area since the late fall and winter.

BROWN PELICAN: Very rare and unusual was one far upstream on the Roanoke River near the US 258 bridge, along the Halifax - Northampton Counties line, March 18 (*fide* Frank Enders). Fishermen reported that the bird was taking fish from their lines!

ANHINGA: Notable sightings of slightly out-of-range birds in North Carolina included two over Sealevel, Carteret County, April 20 (Sam Cooper), two over the Great Coharie Creek, Sampson County, April 26 (Harry LeGrand), and five over Durham May 5 (Dan Kaplan).

AMERICAN BITTERN: Good sightings from western North Carolina included one in Winston-Salem April 29 (*fide* Ramona Snavely), one at Slick Rock Lake, Transylvania County, May 11 (Nancy & Tom Iha), and one in the French Broad River valley, Henderson County, March 13 until April 8 (Wayne Forsythe, Ron Selvey, Marilyn Westphal).

GREAT BLUE HERON: This species continued its westward spread as a breeder. This year nesting sites involved three nests at L. Hickory, Alexander County, NC (Dwayne Martin), two nests at Riverbend Park, Catawba County, NC (Martin), five nests in Charlotte, NC (John Buckman), a nest near Bass Lake, Watauga County, NC (*fide* Walt Conway), one nest near Greer, SC (Linda Sharp), and nine nests at Fury's Ferry, Sumter Nat. For., SC (Robin Carter and Carolina Eastman). Also numbers are increasing inland as evidenced by the count of 243 on the Chapel Hill, NC, Spring Count, May 12 (*fide* Will Cook), and the colony at Cub Creek, Jordan Lake having 63 nests (Alan Johnston). Elsewhere one was unusual 50 miles off Murrells Inlet, SC, May 25, as noted by Jack Peachey.

GREAT "WHITE" HERON: This form is very rare in the Carolinas, thus of note was one at Kiawah Island, SC, March 13 (Ann Davis, *fide* Will Post).

LITTLE BLUE HERON: One at a pond near Burlington, NC, May 27 was a good local find for the spring (Lynn Moseley).

REDDISH EGRET: Only one was reported this spring, that being a bird in flight heading northward at Harker's Island, Carteret County, NC, May 27 (John Fussell *et al.*).

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON: Reports from western North Carolina included one at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, April 27 (Wayne Forsythe and Ron Selvey) and one at Happy Valley, Caldwell County, April 21 (Dwayne Martin). Known nesting locations were active again, with six adults at the New Hope Creek Impoundment, Chapel Hill, NC, May 25 (Lisa Dailey), up to seven pairs in the Winston-Salem, NC, area (Ramona Snavely), and 14 adults and 12 young at a Charlotte, NC, rookery in late May (Alan Kneidel).

SNOW GOOSE: Three (two Blues, one White) were good finds for the spring season on the Oconee County, SC, Migration Count May 11 (Steve Wagner).

BRANT: One of the best counts in many years was the 500+ seen massed in Ocracoke Inlet, NC, March 10, as noted by Wayne Irvin. The birds were most likely staging there prior to their migration north.

TUNDRA SWAN: Two were locally unusual on L. Auman, Moore County, NC, March 7 (Dick Dole). Even rarer was the individual found at Brevard, NC, March 29-30 (Bill & Norma Siebenheller), which provided only about the second county record.

AMERICAN WIGEON: One, apparently injured, was late at the Ocean Isle, NC, W.T.P. May 25, as noted by Ricky Davis.

NORTHERN PINTAIL: Another late duck was the Pintail still at Bodie Island, NC, Lighthouse Pond May 24 (Jeff Pippen).

REDHEAD: During a slow year for waterfowl in the Carolinas, a count of 75 Redhead on L. Julian, Buncombe County, NC, March 10 was a surprise (Wayne Forsythe).

COMMON EIDER: Always noteworthy in the Carolinas, a female Common was quite late in the Atlantic Beach, NC, area April 8 and May 26 (*fide* John Fussell).

HOODED MERGANSER: This species nests somewhere in the Carolinas each year. This spring a female with six young was seen on the Coosawhatchie River, Hampton County, SC, May 9 (Carroll Richard).

COMMON MERGANSER: Four females were on Salem L., Forsyth County, NC, March 23 (Ramona Snavely *et al.*), providing the only report this spring.

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER: Good numbers of this merganser were found inland this spring. In the mountains, the best totals were 15 on L. Julian, NC, March 21 (Wayne Forsythe) and 8 at Table Rock St. Pk., SC, March 30 (Scott Stegenga). Elsewhere 15 were at Buckhorn Res., NC, March 10 (Ricky Davis), 13 were on L. Waccamaw, NC, April 20 (Josh Rose); and an amazing flock of 147 on Roanoke Rapids L, NC, March 24 (Davis) provided one of highest counts for inland North Carolina in a long time.

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE: This species is found in North Carolina as a spring wanderer each year, and this season was better than most. One was rather early seen heading north along NC 12 from Avon to Pea Island N.W.R. March 10 (Brad & Pat Carlson, Jeff Lewis). Others included singles near Old Dock, Columbus County April 6 (Ginger Travis *et al.*), at Swansboro April 17 (Jamie Cameron), near Avon April 18 (S. Ryan), at Salvo April 21 (Ryan), over Buxton woods April 21 (Sidney Maddock), and at Cedar Island April 20 (John Fussell *et al.*). Much rarer and unexpected was one in the Piedmont along the Haw River, at Bynum, Chatham County April 25 (Chris Canfield).

MISSISSIPPI KITE: The number of reports of this species continues to increase. Some of the more interesting sightings included four southwest of Jacksonville, NC, May 24 (David Brinkman *et al.*), one north of Southport, NC, May 28 (Sam Cooper), one at the Palmetto Peartree Preserve, Tyrrell County, NC, May 25 (Jeff Lewis), and one in southeastern Wake County, NC, along the Neuse River May 29 (Harry LeGrand and John Finnegan).

NORTHERN HARRIER: One was somewhat late at Winston-Salem, NC, May 5 (*fide* David Disher), while one was definitely late near Chapel Hill, NC, May 23 (Josh Rose).

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK: A pair seen displaying to each other was observed at Stecoah Gap, Graham County, NC, May 7 (Simon Thompson). This species is an uncommon nester in the Carolinas.
COOPER'S HAWK: This species nests in our area more frequently than the preceding, but of note was a pair near Hillsborough, NC, May 25 (Greg Dodge).
BROAD-WINGED HAWK: Two were found on the Alligator River N.W.R., NC, in early March (Brian Watts, *fide* Jeff Lewis). Were these birds early migrants, or did they winter there – one was reported there during December on the Christmas Count! Elsewhere locally unusual spring sightings included one at Conway, SC, April 12 (Gary Phillips) and one in Jasper County, SC, May 8 (Will Cook). Also a nest found at the Savannah River Site, SC, May 30 (*fide* Anne Waters) provided a rare breeding report for the Coastal Plain.
RED-TAILED HAWK: Very rare was an individual of the "Krider's" form of Red-tailed found at Murphey Island, Charleston County, SC, March 15 (Will Post *et al.*). This bird provided about the 4th report for the state.
ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK: The wintering birds at Alligator River N.W.R., NC, were last observed March 19 (Jeff Lewis).
GOLDEN EAGLE: An adult was a good find along Max Patch Rd., Haywood County, NC, May 12 (Brad & Pat Carlson).
MERLIN: One was a good find on the Jordan L., NC, Spring Count May 5 (Norm Budnitz and Carol Williamson).
KING RAIL: One was a complete surprise, found in downtown Asheville, NC, April 25 (Stu Gibeau, Vin Stanton *et al.*). Obviously a grounded migrant, the bird was observed for a couple of hours only that day.
PURPLE GALLINULE: One was very rare and unusual on the beach at Avon, NC, in early May (Elizabeth Hanrahan). The bird, which was being mobbed by gulls, was taken to a local rehabilitation center for recovery.
SANDHILL CRANE: One that wintered in Transylvania County, NC, was present until at least March 27 (Bill & Norma Siebenheller). Another individual was present in the French Broad River valley, Henderson County, NC, March 23 (Wayne Forsythe and Bob Olthoff). Another western North Carolina sighting was of one along the Catawba River, Riverbend Park, Catawba County, March 25 (Dwayne Martin *et al.*). To the east one was present at a golf course community near New Bern, NC, for up to two weeks in late April (Wade Fuller, Bob Holmes *et al.*). And finally, one was found injured in a ditch near Rocky Mount, NC, in early May (John Vickers). This bird was taken to a Greenville veterinarian, but it did not survive.
BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER: The only inland report this spring was of one at the Winslow Sod Farm, Scotland Neck, NC, May 5 (Ricky Davis).
SEMIPALMATED PLOVER: One of the best inland spring counts received in a while was the 48 Semipalmateds at the Goldsboro, NC, W.T.P. May 19 (Ricky Davis).
WILLET: Very rarely noted inland during spring, 11 Willets at Jordan Lake, NC, May 5 (Patrick Coin *et al.*) were a good find.
UPLAND SANDPIPER: The number of reports this spring was down somewhat, as compared to previous years. Four were at the Cherry Hospital

grounds, Wayne County, NC, April 6 (Eric Dean), one was near Red Oak, Nash County, NC, April 12 (Ricky Davis), and one was at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, April 1 (Steve Calver).

WHIMBREL: An individual of the "Eurasian" subspecies was found at C. Lookout, NC, May 27 (John Fussell *et al.*). This form is very rarely reported, but it has been recorded in the Carolinas several times before.

LONG-BILLED CURLEW: Always noteworthy in the Carolinas, singles were found at C. Lookout, NC, April 27 (Bob Holmes *et al.*) and Ft. Fisher, NC, May 3 (Bruce Smithson).

WESTERN SANDPIPER: Notable inland spring reports included one at Winston-Salem, NC, May 5 (*fide* David Disher), one in North Augusta, SC, May 11 (*fide* Anne Waters), and two at the Goldsboro, NC, W.T.P. May 19 (Ricky Davis).

LEAST SANDPIPER: A count of 230 Leasts was made at the Goldsboro, NC, W.T.P. May 19 (Ricky Davis), providing a very respectable total for an inland site.

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER: Inland sightings of note included 8 at the Winston-Salem, NC, W.T.P. May 26 (Ramona Snavely *et al.*), 6 at the Goldsboro, NC, W.T.P. May 19 (Ricky Davis), and two on the Jordan Lake, NC Spring Count May 5 (Brian Bockhahn).

PURPLE SANDPIPER: One at Ft. Macon, NC, May 31 was very late (John Fussell). This species has normally left the Carolinas by early to mid May.

DUNLIN: This species is one of the rarer inland spring migrants, thus of note were one at Sandling Beach, Falls Lake, NC, May 1 (Brian Bockhahn) and one in eastern Franklin County, NC, May 21-22 (Ricky Davis).

RUFF: A Reeve was again found at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, April 13 (Steve Calver). This area seems to be the most reliable for finding Ruffs in the Carolinas. Another Reeve, found at the Ocean Isle, NC W.T.P. May 4-5 (Taylor Piephoff and Rob Van Epps), provided a very locally rare sighting.

SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER: Only one inland Short-billed was reported this spring, that being in the French Broad River valley, Henderson County, NC, May 3 (Wayne Forsythe and Marilyn Westphal).

LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER: Interesting reports of this species included two out-of-habitat on the beach at Ocean Isle Beach, NC, May 14 (Greg Massey) and an impressive total of 392 at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, April 13 (Steve Calver).

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE: Rare onshore spring reports involved single females at Pea Island N.W.R., NC, May 8 (Sidney Maddock) and another or the same at nearby Bodie Island Lighthouse pond May 10 (Chris Eley).

RED PHALAROPE: A pelagic trip out of Hatteras, NC, March 9 produced a good count of 193 Reds (Brian Patteson *et al.*).

SOUTH POLAR SKUA: This species made a good showing this spring off North Carolina. Two were off Manteo May 24, one was off Manteo May 26, and two were off Manteo May 31 (Brian Patteson *et al.*). Other offshore South Polars included one off Hatteras May 13 and two off Hatteras May 21, as noted

by Brian Patteson. Also one seen at C. Hatteras May 28 (Marc Ameels, *fide* Patteson) provided a very rare onshore sighting.

POMARINE JAEGER: Pomarines migrated off North Carolina in excellent numbers this spring. They were seen on almost all trips in late May, and a peak count of 78 off Manteo May 24 was quite impressive (Brian Patteson *et al.*). Another good count was the 20 Pomarines seen from shore at C. Hatteras (Marc Ameels, *fide* Patteson). In South Carolina, two were good finds off Murrells Inlet on a May 11 trip (Murray Honick).

PARASITIC JAEGER: The best totals reported included seven off Hatteras May 26 and six from C. Hatteras May 29 (Brian Patteson *et al.*).

LONG-TAILED JAEGER: Always noteworthy in the Carolinas, this jaeger was reported more frequently than usual. In North Carolina, four were off Manteo May 24, singles were off Manteo May 26 & 31, and one was off Hatteras May 25 (Brian Patteson *et al.*). In South Carolina, where it is a much rarer bird, one was found off Murrells Inlet May 11, as noted by Murray Honick.

LAUGHING GULL: Three inland reports were received this spring. Single Laughings were at Falls Lake, NC, May 1 (Brian Bockhahn), Jordan Lake, NC, May 5 (Norm Budnitz and Carol Williamson), and Oxford Dam of L. Hickory, Catawba County, NC, May 7 (Dwayne Martin *et al.*).

FRANKLIN'S GULL: One was a great find at Bald Head Island, NC, March 14, as noted by Greg Massey. The bird, in nice breeding plumage with pinkish wash to the breast, was on the beach with several Laughing Gulls for comparison. It had been a couple of years since the last Franklin's was found in the Carolinas.

ICELAND GULL: The Iceland first reported from the winter season frequenting the Cedar Island and Swan Quarter ferries to Ocracoke was last observed April 28 by Helmut Mueller.

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL: A rare spring inland report was of a 1st-winter bird at Crosswinds, Jordan Lake, NC, May 3 (Doug Shadwick).

GLAUCOUS GULL: One was a good find at Hatteras Inlet, NC, March 10 (Veronica Pantelidis), providing the last report for the season.

SABINE'S GULL: There were two reports of this very rare gull. One was seen from C. Hatteras, NC, May 20 (*fide* Jeff Lewis), and another was close to shore at Bald Head Island, NC, May 31 (Sam Cooper). The latter bird provided an extremely unusual local sighting.

CASPIAN TERN: This species is the most expected inland tern during the spring. This season's best reports included one at L. Julian, NC, April 20 (Wayne Forsythe and Bob Olthoff), one in Transylvania County, NC, April 27 (Bill & Norma Siebenheller), one at Mountain Island Lake near Charlotte, NC, April 6 (Rob Bierregard), and one at the Congaree Swamp Nat. Mon., Richland County, SC, April 13 (Tim Kalbach *et al.*). The latter bird was unusual in that it was observed over a parking lot! Also unusual was one seen following a creek through an open swamp forest in Edgecombe County, NC, April 21 (Ricky Davis).

ROSEATE TERN: Always noteworthy anytime in the Carolinas, single Roseate Terns were at C. Lookout, NC, May 5 (Magnus Persmark, Randy Emmitt, Owen McConnell) and C. Hatteras, NC, May 28 (Marc Ameels, *fide* Brian Patteson).

ARCTIC TERN: Only two were found offshore this spring, with birds off Hatteras May 26 and off Manteo May 27 (Brian Patteson *et al.*). Much rarer and unusual was the nice adult plumaged bird seen onshore at the western end of Holden Beach, NC, May 28 (Sam Cooper).

FORSTER'S TERN: Inland sightings of note involved five at L. Murray, SC, March 10 (Josh Rose *et al.*), two on L. Julian, NC, May 5 (Marilyn Westphal and Bob Olthoff), and one on the Chapel Hill, NC Spring Count May 12 (Ginger Travis).

SOOTY TERN: Only one was reported this spring, that being an individual on the beach south of Salvo, NC, May 11, as noted by Kristen Mazzarella.

WHITE-WINGED DOVE: As of this spring, one bird still continues at the Beaufort, NC, site (Rich & Susan Boyd). Elsewhere one was locally unusual and unexpected in upstate South Carolina at a feeder in Pickens April 24, as noted by Steve Patterson.

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO: Noteworthy reports of this elusive species included one on the Buncombe County, NC, Spring Count May 12 (Marilyn Westphal), two at Piney Creek, Alleghany County, NC, May 19 (James Coman), one in Hendersonville, NC, May 24 (Bev Hudson), and one in the Croatan Nat. For., Craven County, NC, May 25 (John Fussell). The latter bird, like past reports from there, was singing from a pine pocosin habitat.

SHORT-EARED OWL: The best count from the usual Alligator River N.W.R., NC location was 20 in early March (Brian Watts, *fide* Jeff Lewis).

CHIMNEY SWIFT: One at Congaree Swamp Nat. Mon., SC, March 23 (Robin Carter) provided a new early date for the park.

BLACK-CHINNED HUMMINGBIRD: Another one of this species was banded in the Carolinas, that being at Lexington, SC, in early March (Bill Hilton, Jr.).

CALLIOPE HUMMINGBIRD: The Calliope that wintered at a Winston-Salem, NC, feeder was last seen about April 21 (Charlie Williams).

BROAD-TAILED HUMMINGBIRD: Another wintering hummer, the Broad-tailed near Gibsonville, Guilford County, NC, was present until mid-April (Susan Campbell).

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER: Locally rare and unusual were singles in Ocracoke, NC, May 4 (Peter Vankevich) and in downtown Beaufort, NC, April 20 (Rich & Susan Boyd).

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER: The nesting pair near Monroe, NC, returned for the third year in a row around April 23 (Anne Olsen). One wonders how many years these birds will be able to return.

LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE: This species is very hard to find in the western sections of the Carolinas. Of note this spring were singles at Hendersonville, NC, March 15 (Ben Ringer) and Old Fort, NC, April 20 (Stu Gibeau).

WARBLING VIREO: The nesting birds returned to Anilorac Farm, Orange County, NC, April 22 (Shantanu Phukan) for their third year. Elsewhere migrants included one in Mecklenburg County, NC, April 27 (Taylor Piephoff), one at Ventosa, Halifax County, NC, May 5 (Ricky Davis), and one on Roanoke Island, NC, May 8 (Jeff Lewis).

PHILADELPHIA VIREO: This rare spring migrant was reported once, that being one on the Winston-Salem, NC, Spring Count May 5 (*fide* David Disher).

BLUE JAY: Migrating flocks of this species are rarely noted during spring. An impressive flock of 250+ was seen moving through Riverbend Park, Catawba County, NC, April 15 (Dwayne Martin).

COMMON RAVEN: One was seen and heard at the summit of Occoneechee Mt., Orange County, NC, March 1 (Brian Bockhahn). This further extends the eastward expansion of this species from the upper Piedmont areas of North Carolina.

TREE SWALLOW: This species continues to spread eastward as a breeder. This year a pair building a nest on Roanoke Island, NC, in early May (Jeff Lewis) provided a new nesting report for that coastal locality.

CLIFF SWALLOW: New breeding season locations for this species were established over Brices Creek and the Neuse River in the New Bern, NC, area this spring (John Fussell, sev. obs.).

BROWN-HEADED NUTHATCH: Very rare in our mountains, a group of 8 Brown-headeds was located at Chatuge Lake, Clay County, NC, May 25 (Frank Renfrow).

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH: Lingering Red-breasteds included three at Medoc Mt., Halifax County, NC, April 12 (Ricky Davis), one at Cedar Creek Landing, Lancaster County, SC, April 21 (Robin Carter), and one at C. Lookout, NC, April 27 (Bob Holmes *et al.*). Also of note were two at Table Rock St. Pk., SC, April 30 (Scott Stegenga) and one in Conway, SC, March 6 (Jack Peachey).

WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH: Continuing the species' spread toward the coast in Carteret County, NC, a pair nested in Morehead City this spring (*fide* John Fussell), a first local record.

SEDGE WREN: Noteworthy mountain area sightings included singles in Buncombe County, NC, May 5 (Marilyn Westphal and Bob Olthoff), in the French Broad River valley, Henderson County, NC, May 11 (Bob Olthoff and Marilyn Westphal), and at Table Rock St. Pk., SC, May 4 (Scott Stegenga).

MARSH WREN: One was a good find in the French Broad River valley, NC, April 29, as noted by Wayne Forsythe and Marilyn Westphal.

GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH: One was early at Hampton Plantation St. Pk, SC, April 22 (Phil & Sharon Turner).

HERMIT THRUSH: A wintering bird was rather late on the Buncombe County, NC Spring Count May 12 (*fide* Marilyn Westphal).

AMERICAN PIPIT: One was very late at the Harris Farm in eastern Franklin County, NC, May 28 (Ricky Davis).

CAPE MAY WARBLER: One was very early at Landsford Canal St. Pk., SC, March 23, as noted by John Buckman.

BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER: One at Surfside Beach, SC, March 3 (Joe Gyekis *et al.*) had to have been a wintering individual as it would be too early for a migrant.
PRAIRIE WARBLER: A Prairie at a feeder in Simpsonville, SC, March 7-8 (Pete Worthington) was most likely another wintering individual.
CERULEAN WARBLER: Nests of this species are rarely reported in the Carolinas, thus of note was one observed at Chimney Rock Park, NC, May 27 (Simon Thompson). A migrant at Mason Farm, Chapel Hill, NC, May 5 (Haven Wiley) was a good find for that eastern locality.
PROTHONOTARY WARBLER: One provided a locally rare sighting in the French Broad River valley, Henderson County, NC, May 11-13 (Bob Olthoff, Marilyn Westphal, Wayne Forsythe).
KENTUCKY WARBLER: Locally rare spring migrants along the coast included singles on Roanoke Island, NC, May 6 (Jeff Lewis) and at Ft. Caswell, NC, May 7 (Greg Massey).
CONNECTICUT WARBLER: There were two reports of this rare migrant this season. One was at the Savannah River Site, SC, May 15 (Paul Champlin), and one was at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, NC, May 22 (Ron Selvey).
MOURNING WARBLER: The very rare Mourning was reported twice, one being a singing bird at Jackson Park, NC, May 20 (Ron Selvey), and the other was unfortunately a window casualty in Durham, NC, May 8 (Bill Schlesinger, *fide* Jeff Pippen). This species is extremely rare in central North Carolina in spring.
HOODED WARBLER: Quite early were singles near Harleyville, SC, March 17 (Ann Shahid) and along River Road, Cumberland County, NC, March 24 (Bob Perkins).
CLAY-COLORED SPARROW: Very rare in spring, this sparrow was found twice. One was near Fishing Creek, Halifax County, NC, March 3 (Ricky Davis), and two were in the Hospital Fields area, Transylvania County, NC, April 25-27 (Bill & Norma Siebenheller, sev. obs.).
LARK SPARROW: One at Huntington Beach St. Pk., SC, the first week in April (Ken Behrens) was a good find and the only one reported this spring.
SAVANNAH SPARROW: Two were late at the Harris Farm, eastern Franklin County, NC, May 28 (Ricky Davis).
HENSLOW'S SPARROW: Always noteworthy, Henslow's Sparrow reports involved one near Hasty, Scotland County, NC, March 9 (Jeff Beane *et al.*), a locally rare and unusual one in the mountains at Pisgah Forest, Transylvania County, NC, April 5 (Bill & Norma Siebenheller), and one at Congaree Swamp Nat. Mon., SC, April 13 (Tim Kalbach *et al.*).
LINCOLN'S SPARROW: Spring migrants in the Carolinas are always worth mentioning. This spring's reports included one in Edgecombe County, NC, March 3 (Ricky Davis), one at Jackson Park, NC, April 4-12 (Wayne Forsythe, Ron Selvey, sev. obs.), one at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, April 13 (Steve Calver), and one at Piney Creek, Alleghany County, NC, May 6 (James Coman).
WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW: One was a good find along the coast at C. Lookout, NC, May 4-5 (Randy Emmitt).

DARK-EYED JUNCO: Late Juncos included singles at Greenville, NC, May 11 (Veronica Pantelidis) and at Zebulon, NC, May 14 (Debbie Merritt).

DICKCISSEL: This species proved hard to come by this spring. Only two reports were received. A female was back at Anilorac Farm, Orange County, NC, April 28 (Shantanu Phukan), and a male was at the Harris Farm, Franklin County, NC, May 23 (Ricky Davis).

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD: One was found dead on the Duke University campus, Durham, NC, late April - early May (*fide* Randy Emmitt), providing a very rare inland record for the Carolinas.

RUSTY BLACKBIRD: An excellent count for the mountains was the 200+ at Jackson Park, NC, March 20 (Ron Selvey).

BREWER'S BLACKBIRD: One found along US 601 in Hampton County, SC, May 11 (Carroll Richard and Kathleen O'Grady) provided a locally rare and late sighting.

SHINY COWBIRD: Only one was found this season, that being a male at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, April 1 (Steve Calver).

RED CROSSBILL: A flock of six Reds at Piney Creek, NC, April 14 (James Coman) was considered locally unusual away from the usual higher elevation areas.

WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL: A female frequented a feeder in Ashe County, NC, May 9-10 (Vaughn Morrison, Walt Conway) for a very rare sighting for the Carolinas.

PINE SISKIN: Locally rare and unusual in spring, three siskins at C. Lookout, NC, May 4-5 (Magnus Persmark, Randy Emmitt) were good finds.

EVENING GROSBEAK: This species was absent over most of the Carolinas this winter, thus of note were several spring reports from eastern North Carolina. Three were at Brickhouse Rd., Durham County March 3 (Scott Barnes), one was at a feeder in Goldsboro April 30 (Mary Bridges), and six were at a feeder near Norfleet, Halifax County April 7 (Ricky Davis).

CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

MEMBERSHIP

The Carolina Bird Club, Inc. is a non-profit educational and scientific association founded in 1937. Membership is open to those interested in the study and conservation of wildlife, particularly birds. Dues, contributions, and bequests to the Club may be deductible from state and federal income and estate taxes. Checks should be made payable to Carolina Bird Club, Inc. and sent to CBC Headquarters, 11 West Jones Street, Raleigh, NC 27601-1029.

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(Payable on a calendar-year basis)

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CBC members receive The Chat, a quarterly journal devoted to bird study and conservation, and the CBC Newsletter, which carries information about meetings, field trips, and club projects. Articles intended for publication in The Chat may be sent to the Editor or the appropriate editor listed in the inside front cover. Items for the Newsletter should be sent to its Editor, Judy Walker, 7639 Farm Gate Dr., Charlotte, NC 28215. Send correspondence regarding memberships, changes of address, or requests for back numbers of either publication to CBC Headquarters, 11 West Jones Street, Raleigh, NC 27601-1029.

OFFICERS

President: Van Atkins, 2040 Church Creek Dr., Charleston, SC 29414

Vice Presidents:

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Dick Blee, 2 Tinequa Dr., Brevard, NC 28712

Kent Fiala, 1714 Borland Rd, Hillsborough NC 27278

Secretary: Sue Pulsipher, 2441 Ramey Dr., Linden, NC 28356-9771

Treasurer: Stephen Harris, 5009 Crown Point Lane, Wilmington, NC 28409

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Sandy Cash, 8003 Crenshaw Lane, Durham, NC 27713

Charlotte Goedsche, 371 Ox Creek Rd., Weaverville NC 28787-9765

Dwayne Martin, PO Box 133, Claremont, NC 28610

SC Members-at-large:

Kathleen O'Grady, 1428-A Farrington Way, Columbia, SC 29210

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Immediate Past President: Len Pardue 16 The Circle, Asheville, NC 28801

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The Chat

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THE CHAT

Vol. 66 FALL 2002 No. 4

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Editor Bob Wood, 2421 Owl Circle
West Columbia, SC 29169
bobwood@ix.netcom.com

General Field Notes

North Carolina Will Cook
South Carolina Dennis M. Forsythe

Briefs for the Files ..... Ricky Davis

Associate Editor ..... Andrea Ceselski

Editor Emeritus ..... Eloise F. Potter

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Cover (Great Horned Owl) by Rachel E. Wood, Charlotte, NC

2000 - 2001 Report of the South Carolina Bird Records Committee

Lex Glover, Chair
Donna Slyce Bailey,
Secretary and Compiler
Gifford Beaton, Jr.
Tim Kalbach
Taylor Piephoff
Will Post

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In 2000 and 2001, the South Carolina Bird Records Committee completed action on 27 records. Of these, 18 were accepted and 9 were not accepted. Among the accepted reports were two records that added new species to the Definitive State List. A report of a Spotted Towhee specimen archived at the Charleston Museum of Natural History, a report of a White-winged Tern accompanied by photographs, and a report of a Calliope Hummingbird accompanied by photos as well as a banding report added these three species to the Definitive State List. A report of a Trumpeter Swan was accepted with questionable origin by the Committee, placing this species on the Provisional II list. Inclusion on the Definitive State List requires a properly vouchered specimen, unretouched recognizable photographs or video, or a recognizable sound recording of a species, as set forth by the Committee in 1996.

Committee membership did not change in 2001, but after the Commnittee completed its work for 2001, Donna Slyuce Bailey replaced Lex Glover as Chair, and Glover remained on the Committee as a member.

Committee activity is reviewed below.

ACCEPTED AS VALID

Western Grebe (08-99-08 & 08-99-08A). A cooperative bird of this species was observed by many at Lake Paul Wallace in Bennettsville from late August through late October of 1999. The Committee reviewed and accepted two reports on this bird, one from Barbara Gearhart and a second from Susan Campbell.

Trumpeter Swan (12-98-25). The second report of a Trumpeter Swan from South Carolina, seen in Charleston Harbor and reported by John Cottingham, was accepted with questionable origin by the Committee. This was the first report of a Trumpeter Swan to be accepted by the Committee, placing the species on the state's Provisional II List. The widespread re-introduction of this majestic bird in the mid-West and the continued presence of the species in waterfowl collections in the state prompted the Committee to vote for the possibility of a human-assisted origin for this bird.

White-tailed Kite (04-99-14). An adult of this species was observed at length and photographed by Charles Flint at the Starkey Swine Center at Clemson University in April 1999. The report was accepted by the Committee.

Limpkin (03-01-02). A bird appearing at the Savannah National Wildlife Refuge in early March of 2001 and lingering into early May was documented with photographs by Giff Beaton and Tom Egan and was observed by many. The report was accepted.

Limpkin (05-01-03). Two birds, found along the Little Pee Dee River and photographed by Andy Day in late May of 2001, were reported. The report was accepted.

Parasitic Jaeger (09-00-08). A report on a specimen archived at the Charleston Museum of Natural History was accepted by the Committee.

Franklin's Gull (11-98-21). A group of ten birds of this species was observed at Lake Robinson in Darlington County in November of 1999. A detailed report written by Lex Glover and accompanied by sketches was accepted by the Committee.

Iceland Gull (02-00-03). A single adult individual in ragged condition, conspicuous as it stood among a large group of first winter Herring Gulls, was photographed and reported by Bruce Hallett from Myrtle Beach in late February of 2000. The report was accepted.

Black-legged Kittiwake (02-98-23). A single adult bird, seen from Huntington Beach State Park jetties by Andreas Kristensen, Jack Peachey and Phil Turner in early February of 1998, was reported by Andreas Kristensen. The detailed report was accepted by the Committee.

Bridled Tern (01-99-18). A report, including photographs, of a freshly dead individual found at Pawley's Island in Georgetown County by Lex Glover and Chris Newkirk in January of 1999 was accepted. The specimen was collected and archived at the Charleston Museum of Natural History.

White-winged Tern (11-00-13). Photographs and a report from Steve Calver of a bird that was observed at the Savannah Spoils Site in Jasper County in mid-November of 2000 was accepted. This places the species on the state's Definitive List.

Black-chinned Hummingbird (01-99-02). A female adult bird, using a feeder in the yard of Grippon Boags at James Island in Charleston from late January through early February of 1999, was reported by Bob Sargent. The report was accepted.

Calliope Hummingbird (12-99-10). A subadult male coming to a feeder at the home of Dr. Charles and Judy Webb in Greer was banded, photographed and reported by Bob Sargent in early December of 1999. The bird was subsequently observed by many as it lingered at the well-maintained feeder into March. This became the first accepted report of this species in the state, placing the species on the Definitive List.

Yellow-rumped Warbler, Audubon's subspecies (01-99-01). A single individual of this subspecies was observed by Jack Peachey and Gary Phillips at Waites Island in Horry County in January 1999. The bird was noted among a large flock of Yellow-rumped Warblers comprised otherwise of the typical eastern subspecies of Yellow-rumped Warbler, the Myrtle subspecies.

Spotted Towhee (02-67-01). A report on a specimen archived at the Charleston Museum of Natural History was accepted by the Committee.

Smith's Longspur (01-99-11). An individual of this species, found by Tim Kalbach, was seen by several observers and reported by Tim Kalbach from the base of the Huntington Beach State Park jetties in January 1999. The report, accompanied by photographs from Lex Glover, was accepted.

Common Redpoll (02-00-10). A video of a bird that briefly visited a feeder in Irmo, reported to the Committee by Jerry Griggs, the homeowner and the videographer, was accepted by the Committee.

UNACCEPTED

Arctic Loon (01-99-09). A report of a bird seen from the jetties at Huntington Beach State Park was not accepted due to lack of diagnostic field marks visible in the photographs.

Gull-billed Tern (02-99-03). A report of a very brief observation of an out-of-season (February) bird at Huntington Beach State Park was not accepted by the Committee. The brevity of the observation left the report lacking in details.

Roseate Tern (05-98-17 & 05-98-17A). Two reports of a bird seen at Kiawah Island were not accepted due to insufficient details to identify the reported bird positively to species.

Black-chinned Hummingbird (10-00-14). A bird captured on video feeding on planted flowers in Lexington County in mid-October 2000 was not accepted due to insufficient details to distinguish it from a look-alike species, Ruby-throated Hummingbird.

UNRESOLVED

Masked Booby (11-98-20). A report of a bird observed well offshore at Litchfield Beach in November of 1998 lacked documenting details and will be sent for outside review. The report will then be re-submitted to the Committee for consideration.

Iceland Gull (05-98-22). A lack of convincing detail in this report of a bird seen in May of 1998 led to an indecisive vote from the Committee and will be sent to outside review. The report will then be re-submitted to the Committee for consideration.

Nashville Warbler (03-99-05). A lack of fine detail and a less than rigorous elimination of similar species occasioned enough non-accept votes to send this otherwise well-written report of an out-of-season (March) bird to outside review. The report will be re-submitted to the Committee for consideration.

Blackpoll Warbler (12-98-24). A well-written, detailed report of a bird in breeding plumage found in December of 1998 in the Upstate caused some discussion among Committee members and occasioned an indecisive vote. The report will be sent for outside review and re-submitted to the Committee.

Birds of the Carolinas Student Research Grants Program

The Carolina Bird Club's Birds of the Carolinas Research Grants Program provides funding for undergraduate and graduate students in North Carolina and South Carolina. The program is funded through the generosity of the authors of *Birds of the Carolinas* (Eloise F. Potter, James F. Parnell, and Robert P. Teulings). Application deadlines and other details will be announced via mail to North Carolina and South Carolina institutions and on the Carolina Bird Club web site.

South Carolina Bird List [November 2002]

South Carolina Bird Records Committee
Lex Glover, Chair

List Categories:

Definitive: A specimen, photograph, or sound recording of the species has been archived by the South Carolina Bird Records Committee.

Provisional I (bold): Documentation of at least one accepted sight record of the species has been archived by the SCBRC.

Provisional II (bold and brackets): Documentation of at least one accepted sight record of the species has been archived by the SCBRC, but the wild origin of the individual(s) reported is questionable.

Hypothetical (brackets and bold, H): Any reports of the species in the state have not been documented.

Review Categories:

Full (F or bold): A report of any sighting of the species should be sent to the South Carolina Bird Records Committee.

Inland only (I): A report of any sighting of the species more than 30 miles inland should be sent to the SCBRC.

North American Birds Report Species (NAB): A report with details should be sent to the Regional Editor of *North American Birds*.

North American Birds Report Species, Inland Only (NABI): A report with details of any sighting of the species more than 30 miles inland should be sent to the Regional Editor of *North American Birds*.

Red-throated Loon	
Pacific Loon	
Common Loon	
Pied-billed Grebe	
Horned Grebe	
Red-necked Grebe	F
Eared Grebe	
Western Grebe	F
Northern Fulmar	F
Black-capped Petrel	I
Cory's Shearwater	I
Greater Shearwater	I
Sooty Shearwater	F
Manx Shearwater	F
Audubon's Shearwater	I
Little Shearwater	F
Wilson's Storm-Petrel	I
Leach's Storm-Petrel	F
Band-rumped Storm-Petrel	F
White-tailed Tropicbird	F
Red-billed Tropicbird	F
Masked Booby	F
Brown Booby	F
Red-footed Booby	F
Northern Gannet	I
American White Pelican	I
Brown Pelican	I
Double-crested Cormorant	
Great Cormorant	I
Anhinga	
Magnificent Frigatebird	I
American Bittern	
Least Bittern	
Great Blue Heron	
Great Egret	
Snowy Egret	

Little Blue Heron
Tricolored Heron
Reddish Egret I
Cattle Egret
Green Heron
Black-crowned Night-Heron
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron
White Ibis
[Scarlet Ibis]
Glossy Ibis
Roseate Spoonbill I
Wood Stork
Black Vulture
Turkey Vulture
[Greater Flamingo] H
Fulvous Whistling-Duck F
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck F
Greater White-fronted Goose
Snow Goose
Ross's Goose F
Canada Goose
Brant F
[Barnacle Goose]
[Mute Swan]
[Trumpeter Swan]
Tundra Swan
Wood Duck
Gadwall
Eurasian Wigeon F
American Wigeon
American Black Duck
Mallard
Mottled Duck I
Blue-winged Teal
Cinnamon Teal F
Northern Shoveler
Northern Pintail
Green-winged Teal
Canvasback
Redhead
Ring-necked Duck
Greater Scaup
Lesser Scaup
King Eider F
Common Eider I
Harlequin Duck
Surf Scoter
White-winged Scoter I
Black Scoter I
Long-tailed Duck
Bufflehead
Common Goldeneye
Hooded Merganser
Common Merganser F
Red-breasted Merganser
Ruddy Duck
Osprey
Swallow-tailed Kite
White-tailed Kite F
Mississippi Kite
Bald Eagle
Northern Harrier
Sharp-shinned Hawk
Cooper's Hawk
Northern Goshawk
Red-shouldered Hawk
Broad-winged Hawk
[Short-tailed Hawk] H
Swainson's Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk
Rough-legged Hawk
Golden Eagle
[Crested Caracara]
American Kestrel
Merlin
Peregrine Falcon
[Prairie Falcon]
[Ring-necked Pheasant]
Ruffed Grouse
Wild Turkey
Northern Bobwhite
Yellow Rail F
Black Rail I
Clapper Rail
King Rail
Virginia Rail
Sora
Purple Gallinule
Common Moorhen
American Coot
Limpkin F
Sandhill Crane

Whooping Crane	F
Northern Lapwing	
Black-bellied Plover	
American Golden-Plover	
Snowy Plover	F
Wilson's Plover	I
Semipalmated Plover	
Piping Plover	NABI
Killdeer	
American Oystercatcher	
Black-necked Stilt	
American Avocet	
Greater Yellowlegs	
Lesser Yellowlegs	
[Spotted Redshank] H	
Solitary Sandpiper	
Willet	NABI
Spotted Sandpiper	
Upland Sandpiper	
Eskimo Curlew	
Whimbrel	
Long-billed Curlew	NAB
[Black-tailed Godwit] H	
Hudsonian Godwit	F
Marbled Godwit	NABI
Ruddy Turnstone	
Red Knot	
Sanderling	
Semipalmated Sandpiper	
Western Sandpiper	
Least Sandpiper	
White-rumped Sandpiper	
Baird's Sandpiper	F
Pectoral Sandpiper	
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	
Purple Sandpiper	I
Dunlin	
Curlew Sandpiper	F
Stilt Sandpiper	
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	
Ruff	F
Short-billed Dowitcher	NABI
Long-billed Dowitcher	NABI
Wilson's Snipe	
American Woodcock	
Wilson's Phalarope	
Red-necked Phalarope	NABI
Red Phalarope	I
skua species	F
[South Polar Skua] H	
Pomarine Jaeger	I
Parasitic Jaeger	I
Long-tailed Jaeger	
Laughing Gull	
Franklin's Gull	F
Little Gull	
Black-headed Gull	F
Bonaparte's Gull	
Ring-billed Gull	
Herring Gull	
Iceland Gull	F
Lesser Black-backed Gull	NABI
Glaucous Gull	I
Great Black-backed Gull	NABI
Sabine's Gull	F
Black-legged Kittiwake	I
Gull-billed Tern	
Caspian Tern	
Royal Tern	I
Sandwich Tern	I
Roseate Tern	
Common Tern	I
Arctic Tern	
Forster's Tern	
Least Tern	
Bridled Tern	I
Sooty Tern	I
White-winged Tern	F
Black Tern	
Brown Noddy	F
Black Skimmer	
Dovekie	F
Common Murre	
Thick-billed Murre	F
Razorbill	F
Black Guillemot	F
Long-billed Murrelet	F
Rock Dove	
Band-tailed Pigeon	F
Eurasian Collared-Dove	
White-winged Dove	NAB
Mourning Dove	

Passenger Pigeon
Common Ground-Dove
[Budgerigar]
[Monk Parakeet]
Carolina Parakeet
[Green Parakeet]
Black-billed Cuckoo
Yellow-billed Cuckoo
Smooth-billed Ani
Groove-billed Ani F
Barn Owl
Eastern Screech-Owl
Great Horned Owl
Snowy Owl F
Burrowing Owl F
Barred Owl
Long-eared Owl F
Short-eared Owl
Northern Saw-whet Owl F
Common Nighthawk
Chuck-will's-widow
Whip-poor-will
Chimney Swift
Broad-billed Hummingbird
Blue-throated Hummingbird
Ruby-throated Hummingbird
Black-chinned Hummingbird F
Calliope Hummingbird F
Rufous Hummingbird
Belted Kingfisher
Red-headed Woodpecker
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Downy Woodpecker
Hairy Woodpecker
Red-cockaded Woodpecker
Northern Flicker
Pileated Woodpecker
Ivory-billed Woodpecker
Olive-sided Flycatcher
Eastern Wood-Pewee
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher NAB
Acadian Flycatcher
[Alder Flycatcher] H
Willow Flycatcher
Least Flycatcher
Eastern Phoebe
Say's Phoebe
Vermilion Flycatcher F
[Ash-throated Flycatcher] H
Great Crested Flycatcher
Western Kingbird
Eastern Kingbird
Gray Kingbird I
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher NAB
Fork-tailed Flycatcher F
Loggerhead Shrike
White-eyed Vireo
Bell's Vireo F
Yellow-throated Vireo
Blue-headed Vireo
Warbling Vireo NAB
Philadelphia Vireo
Red-eyed Vireo
Blue Jay
American Crow
Fish Crow
Common Raven
Horned Lark
Purple Martin
Tree Swallow
Northern Rough-winged Swallow
Bank Swallow
Cliff Swallow
Cave Swallow F
Barn Swallow
Carolina Chickadee
[Black-capped Chickadee] H
Tufted Titmouse
[Bushtit] H
Red-breasted Nuthatch
White-breasted Nuthatch
Brown-headed Nuthatch
Brown Creeper
Carolina Wren
Bewick's Wren F
House Wren
Winter Wren
Sedge Wren
Marsh Wren
Golden-crowned Kinglet
Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
[Northern Wheatear] H
Eastern Bluebird
Townsend's Solitaire
Veery
Gray-cheeked Thrush
Bicknell's Thrush F
Swainson's Thrush
Hermit Thrush
Wood Thrush
American Robin
Varied Thrush F
Gray Catbird
Northern Mockingbird
Brown Thrasher
European Starling
White Wagtail F
American Pipit
Sprague's Pipit F
Cedar Waxwing
Bachman's Warbler F
Blue-winged Warbler
Golden-winged Warbler
Tennessee Warbler
Orange-crowned Warbler
Nashville Warbler
Northern Parula
Yellow Warbler
Chestnut-sided Warbler
Magnolia Warbler
Cape May Warbler
Black-throated Blue Warbler
Yellow-rumped Warbler
Black-throated Gray Warbler F
Black-throated Green Warbler
Blackburnian Warbler
Yellow-throated Warbler
Pine Warbler
Kirtland's Warbler F
Prairie Warbler
Palm Warbler
Bay-breasted Warbler
Blackpoll Warbler
Cerulean Warbler
Black-and-white Warbler
American Redstart
Prothonotary Warbler
Worm-eating Warbler
Swainson's Warbler
Ovenbird
Northern Waterthrush
Louisiana Waterthrush
Kentucky Warbler
Connecticut Warbler NAB
Mourning Warbler F
Common Yellowthroat
Hooded Warbler
Wilson's Warbler
Canada Warbler
Yellow-breasted Chat
Summer Tanager
Scarlet Tanager
Western Tanager F
Green-tailed Towhee F
Spotted Towhee F
Eastern Towhee
Bachman's Sparrow
American Tree Sparrow F
Chipping Sparrow
Clay-colored Sparrow NAB
Field Sparrow
Vesper Sparrow
Lark Sparrow NAB
Lark Bunting F
Savannah Sparrow
Grasshopper Sparrow
Henslow's Sparrow
Le Conte's Sparrow
Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow I
Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow I
Seaside Sparrow
Fox Sparrow
Song Sparrow
Lincoln's Sparrow
Swamp Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow
Harris's Sparrow F
White-crowned Sparrow
Golden-crowned Sparrow
Dark-eyed Junco
Lapland Longspur NAB
Smith's Longspur F

Snow Bunting	NAB
Northern Cardinal	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	
Black-headed Grosbeak	F
Blue Grosbeak	
Lazuli Bunting	F
Indigo Bunting	
Painted Bunting	
Dickcissel	
Bobolink	
Red-winged Blackbird	
Eastern Meadowlark	
Western Meadowlark	F
Yellow-headed Blackbird	NAB
Rusty Blackbird	
Brewer's Blackbird	
Common Grackle	
Boat-tailed Grackle	I
Shiny Cowbird	F
Brown-headed Cowbird	
Orchard Oriole	
Baltimore Oriole	
Bullock's Oriole	F
Pine Grosbeak	
Purple Finch	
House Finch	
Red Crossbill	NAB
White-winged Crossbill	F
Common Redpoll	F
Pine Siskin	
American Goldfinch	
Evening Grosbeak	
House Sparrow	

Status of Birds not ABA-Valid

Chilean Flamingo
Caribbean Coot
Ringed Turtle-Dove
Cuban Emerald
Tropical/Couch's Kingbird
House Crow
Red-crested Cardinal
Troupial
Village Weaver

Carolinabirds

Carolinabirds is an Internet e-mail discussion group about birds and birding in the Carolinas. Subscribers frequently post sightings to it similar to those found in Briefs for the Files, but unusual behavior receives more attention. Subscriptions are free. To subscribe, address an e-mail message to <majordomo@duke.edu>. Don't fill in the subject line. As your message, simply put, "subscribe carolinabirds" (without the quotes). You will receive a confirmation and more information shortly. Submissions for Briefs for the Files should be sent directly to Ricky Davis.

2001 Spring Bird Count

Peggy V. Ferebee
Natural Sciences Center
4301 Lawndale Drive
Greensboro, NC 27455

Hebert T. Hendrickson
4806 Sweetbriar Road
Greensboro, NC 27455

The Carolina Bird Club's 2001 Spring Bird Count was held in 16 count areas this year. Participants reported 69,972 birds of 232 species, with a total of 1069 field hours. This compares to 81,455 birds of 288 species last year with 1095.6 field hours. Stone Mountain and Southern Pines, NC, and Lower Saluda River and Congaree Swamp, SC, did not participate this year. New this year were Buncombe County and Hanging Rock State Park, NC, and Irmo, SC. For the most part the weather was good, with some clouds but very little rain.

Seen in record lows: Common Snipe, Common Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Belted Kingfisher, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Eastern Kingbird, Horned Lark, Purple Martin, Barn Swallow, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, American Redstart, Field Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, Wood Duck, American Coot, Spotted Sandpiper, Laughing Gull, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Whip-poor-will, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Blue Jay, Fish Crow, Prothonotary Warbler, and Ovenbird. Wild Turkeys were at their lowest in 5 years.

As groups warblers, shorebirds and goatsuckers were down, and egrets and herons were up. After a peak last year, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Acadian Flycatcher, and Red-eyed Vireo were back down to average numbers. The following species showed an increase over last year: Semipalmated Plover, Ring-billed Gull, Tree Swallow, Brown-headed Cowbird, Woodcock, Cooper's Hawk, and Purple Finch. The following birds were seen in record numbers: Great Blue Heron, Canada Goose, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Bald Eagle, Black Vulture, Broad-winged Hawk, Black-bellied Plover, Cliff Swallow, Cedar Waxwing, and Blue Grosbeak.

More areas are moving the Spring Count date to mid-May to coincide with the North American Migration Count. It was suggested by some that this is late for peak migration in some areas. Some counts may also be spreading more people over a wider area since the Migration Count is county-wide, resulting in less coverage of some areas. The decline of open field areas, disappearing with development, most likely accounts for the record lows of such species as Eastern Meadowlark and Field Sparrow. There may also be a correlation between the decline of some species (some warblers for example) and the increase in Brown-headed Cowbirds. The increase in Great Blue Herons is due to the productivity of several rookeries in a number of the count territories.

Count Area Summaries

Buncombe County, NC (BUNC): Center at 35°41'N, 82°26'W, Bull Mountain and Courthouse Knob. May 13, 2001. 48° F - 72° F. No precipitation. Wind 0-10 mph. Partly cloudy.
Start Time: 6:15 AM
Stop Time: 5:15 PM.

Compiler: Marilyn Westphal
230 Park Lane
Hendersonville, NC 28791

Participants: Sally Coburn, Low Dwarshius, Peggy Franklin, Linda King, Marilyn Kolton, Peggy Lasher, Tim Lewis, Esther Pardue, Len Pardue, Kitti Reynolds, Lee Reynolds, Les Saucier, Alan Smith, Lori Unruh, Marilyn Westphal, Eileen Wilson, and Ruth Young.

Chapel Hill, NC (CPNC): Center at Franklin and Columbia Streets. May 6, 2001. 60° F - 71° F. No precipitation. Wind NE 5 -15 mph. Partly cloudy.
Start Time: 5 AM
Stop Time: 6:35 PM.

Compiler: Will Cook
418 Sharon Rd.
Chapel Hill, NC 27517

Participants: Jim Bloor, Brian Bockhahn, Barb Brooks, Chris Canfield, Bob Chase, Bobbie Collins-Perry, Will Cook, David Curtin, Beth Duncan, Michael Eagan, Kent Fiala, Kate Finlayson, Bert Fisher, Joe Fisher, John Frederick, Marie Graves, Steve Graves, Perry Haaland, Fran Hommersand, Alan Johnson, Eleanor Kilgour, Fred Kilgour, Betty King, Jim Lansing, Ken Lundstrom, Robin Moran, Dave Murdock, Judy Murry, George Painter, Wendy Painter, Wesley Painter, Magnus Persmark, Kevin Powell, Toni Rexrode, Mac Robinson, Josh Rose, Barbara Roth, Doug Shadwick, Elvin Stroud, Edith Tatum, Shelly Theye, Pam Timmons, Les Todd, Ginger Travis, Polly Ulin, Lee Van Malssen, and Carol Williamson.

Compiler's Comments: The 44th Chapel Hill Spring Bird Count was slow for most folks, which we found surprising considering that the Count was held when migration is normally peaking. Our count of 118 species was well below the average of 123. Due to a high level of participation, however, we counted 11,328 individual birds, our second highest ever but near the average for birds per party hour. Unlike last year, we didn't find any outstanding rarities. The best birds included:

3 Common Loons on Jordan Lake (Alan Johnson's party; first since 1993)
3 Great Egrets (Judy Murry and Edith Tatum's parties)
3 Wild Turkeys (Les Todd and Maury Graves' parties)
4 Lesser Yellowlegs at the Farrington Road sewage treatment plant (Brian Bockhahn; first since 1998)
1 Caspian Tern (Pam Timmons' party; only our fourth count record)
2 Gray-cheeked Thrushes (Jim Bloor and John Frederick).

The numbers of parties and party-hours were the highest in many years, so we set a number of record highs. Counts of Great Blue Herons have been increasing rapidly with the discovery last year of our first-ever heronry, found on Cub Creek near Jordan Lake by Alan Johnson and Edith Tatum. The count of 138 Great Blue Heron shattered the record of 87 from last year, which shattered the record of 23 from the previous year. Alan counted 44 active nests this year, compared to 18 for last year (and none the year before that). We also tied record highs for Great Egret. Black Vulture (second record high in a row), Wood Duck, Bald Eagle (tie), Blue-headed Vireo (tie), American Crow (second year in a row), Cliff Swallow, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, Eastern Bluebird, Pine Warbler (second year in a row), Summer Tanager (second year in a row; Scarlet Tanager numbers were average), Northern Cardinal (second year in a row), and Indigo Bunting (second year in a row). We also had very high counts for Great Crested Flycatchers, White-breasted Nuthatch, American Robin, Cedar Waxwing, Northern Parula, Prothonotary Warbler, Ovenbird, Common Yellowthroat, Chipping Sparrow, and Brown-headed Cowbird.

A few species were seen in low numbers. We missed both Veery and Swainson's Thrush – the first time we've ever missed both in the same year (Gray-cheeked was a nice consolation prize, though). We haven't had a lower count for Yellow Warbler since 1962. Yellow-throated and Prairie Warblers were well below average. Field Sparrows continued their decline, with the lowest count since 1969. We missed Rose-breasted Grosbeak for the first time since 1990 and had the smallest flocks of Bobolinks since 1974.

Durham, NC (DUNC): Center located 1 mile south of the junction of Eno River and US 501. April 29, 2001. 45° F - 65° F. No precipitation. No wind. Cloudy in the morning, clearing by 11 AM.
Start Time: 5 AM
Stop Time: 4:30 PM

Compiler: Michael Schultz
5504 Woodberry Rd.
Durham, NC 27707

Participants: Sandy Cash, L. Caitlin Coberly, Will Cook, Rachel Harden, Jeannie Hutchins, Tom Krakauer, Matthew Prior, Toni Rexrode, Rodger Rittmaster, Joshua Rose, Lois Schultz, Michael Schultz, Douglas Shadwick, and Edith Tatum.

Compiler's Comments: This year's count is notable for its shortage of observers. We had the lowest total field hours since the first few fledgling counts on the early 1970s. Because of this, a large area in the center of the count circle (containing some excellent riparian habitats along the Eno and Little Rivers) and the area around Lake Michie were not covered. This certainly was the contributing factor to our low total of individual birds, and I hope it is the major cause of our missing Hooded Warbler for the first time in count history! This does not account for the small number of Ring-billed Gulls we have counted for the past two years. Since the filling of Falls Lake in the mid 1980s, we have been counting gulls in the many hundreds, but for the past two years we have been in single digits. I do not have a clue why the gulls are not on the lake. Also missing from the lake for the first time in many years was Bald Eagle. Observer coverage of this habitat was not compromised this year.

Despite the low number of observers, we did record new high numbers for three species: Great Blue Heron (thanks to continued increase in breeding in the area: our total includes 30 nestlings), Black Vulture, and Cliff Swallow.

Greensboro, NC (GRNC): Center at the intersection of Highway 220 and Pisgah Church Rd. April 28, 2001. 55° - 80° F. No precipitation. No wind. Clear skies.
Start Time: 6:30 AM
Stop Time: 11 AM

Compiler: Donald Allen
2611 David Caldwell Drive
Greensboro, NC

Participants: Carolyn Allen, Donald Allen, Louise Brown, Dennis Burnette, Charles Campbell, Chris Carter, Jeff Claf, Sue Cole, Larry Gasper, Vanessa Girton, Herb Hendrickson, Linda Langworthy, Jane Lewis, Elizabeth Link, Henry Link, Susie Lund, Clarence Maddocks, James Maddocks, Jean McCoy, Lynn Moseley, Jean Murdick, Lauren Murdick, Jean Murphy, Craig Richards, Laurie Sorrell, Emily Talbert, Emily Tyler, and Debbie Zombeck.

Compiler's Comments: Count Day in Greensboro was a beautiful spring day and a fine occasion to be in the field. It was disappointing that this year's count (123 species) was down from last year's (135 species). Since last year's Count was cut short by a storm front that brought everyone in early, this year's results seem doubly disappointing. On the basis of a very quick examination of the two counts, of the 108 species present in both, 7 were unchanged in number, 49 were up, and 52 were down. Last year Greensboro had 31 observers and this year 28, not enough difference to matter. In 2000 there were 21 species represented by single bird, while in 2001 fourteen were so appeared. It had seemed the warblers were slow to appear this year, but in "01" Greensboro had 22 species of warbler and in "00" there were 29 species. Ah, the imponderables.

Henderson County, NC (HCNC): Center at 35° 21' N, 82° 33'W, at the intersection of Ruby Road and US 64. May 12, 2001. 55° F - 75° F. No precipitation. Wind 0-10 mph. Cloudy to mostly cloudy.
Start Time: 6 AM
Stop Time: 5 PM.

Compilers: Barbara Neal and Marilyn Westphal
230 Park Lane
Hendersonville, NC 28791

Participants: Peggy Franklin, Rick Hensley, Linda King, Barbara Neal, Harvey Neal, Jim Neal, Frances Ogasawara, Len Pardue, Ron Selvey, Marilyn Westphal, Jennifer Wren, and Steve Yokum.

Compilers' comments: This Count was actually organized and compiled by Barbara Neal. I just separated the count circle from the whole count. The complete circle was not covered, but it was a good day for birding, and we found 101 species. Unusual species included a Marsh Wren, two Great Egrets, eleven species of shorebird, a Ring-billed Gull, six Grasshopper Sparrows, and a Lincoln's Sparrow. A good count of 19 Willow Flycatchers was also recorded. This species has become quite common in certain parts of Henderson County. The most unusual species was not actually seen on count day, but in count period when a female Wilson's Phalarope in breeding plumage showed up two days later and spent the day on a mud flat near the French Broad River. This may be the first record of this species in the mountains. Wayne Forsythe was able to get some good footage of the bird.

Hanging Rock State Park, NC (HRNC): Center at the visitor's center at Hanging Rock State Park, Danbury, NC. May 12, 2001. 64° F - 82° F. A trace of precipitation. Wind 15-20 mph, with gusts. Clear with clouds moving in late morning.
Start Time: 8:30 AM
Stop Time: 2 PM

Compiler: Craig Standridge
Hanging Rock State Park
PO Box 278
Danbury, NC 27016

Participants: Carolyn Barlow, David Barnhill, Phyllis Barnhill, Gary Boliva, Larry Davis, Phil Dickinsen, Sara Jo Durham, Ronnie Johnson, Carol-Anne Krepps, Jim Martin, James Mitchell, Mariah Mitchell, Paul Powers, Lloyd Ramsey, Indira Santiago, Liz Schmid, Tom Schmid, Ramona Snavely, Paul Spain, and Craig Sandridge.

Compiler's Comments: This was the first official count at Hanging Rock in about 7 years. The Forsyth Audubon Society helped set up and promote the event. We covered most of the major trails and habitat areas in the park. Each group included an advanced birder, and I feel confident about the accuracy of the count.

Iredell County, NC (ICNC): Center at Chipley Ford Road bridge at South Yadkin River. May 6, 2001. 60° F (high not recorded). No precipitation. Wind ENE 10-15 mph. Cloudy in the morning and partly cloudy in the afternoon.
Start Time: 6:30 AM
Stop Time: 5 PM

Compiler: Sam Cathey
130 Park Street
Statesville, NC 28677

Participants: Sam Cathey, Cynthia Dickerson, Bill English, Andy Gabriel, Lois Goforth, Thad Goforth, Jack Greene, Jay Greene, Helen Hollifield, Lee Hollifield, Larry Marlin, Dick Mize, Virginia Mize, Marianne Murphy, Janice Powell, John Robertson, Allen Stanley, Garnet Underwood, Ron Underwood, and Jonathan Worley.

Jordan Lake, NC (JLNC): May 13, 2001. 60° F - 80° F. No precipitation. Wind light and variable to 10 mph. Broken clouds in the early morning, becoming scattered clouds by midday.
Start Time: 5 AM
Stop Time: 8:15 PM

Compiler: Norman Budnitz
4115 Garrett Drive
Durham, NC 27705

Participants: Kay Atwater, Patsy Baily, Taylor Barnhill, Barbara Beaman, Kyle Blankenship, Brian Brockhahn, Mary Bratton, Barbara Brooks, Norman Budnitz, Chris Canfield, Harold Carter, Barbara Coffman, Patrick Coin, Will Cook, Anson Cooke, Dwayne Cooke, Kate Finlayson, John Frederick, Maurice Graves, Steven Graves, Perry Haaland, Russell Herman, Judy Hinderliter Smith, Loren Hintz, Catherine Kay, Joe Kay, John Kent, Charles Konrad, Tom Krakauer, Janet Krakauer, Jane Lewis, Barbara Logue, Terry Logue, Phillip Manning, Melinda Meade, Kyle Mills, Michael M. Mills, Sr., Robin Moran, Monica Nees, Douglas Pavlov, Shannon Pavlov, Rick Payne, Robert Perkins, Stephen Perry, Barbara Roth, Harriet Sato, Shelley Theye, Pam Timmons, Ginger Travis, Andy Upshaw, Margaret Vimmerstedt, Kritsten Weigle, Bobbi Wilkerson, Carol Williamson, Rouse Wilson, and Jeremy Wrenn.

Compiler's Comments: May 13, 2001, was a pleasant day, with temperatures ranging from 60° F at dawn to 80° F at midday. Sixty-one observers (a tie for our highest) in 29 parties (a new high) counted 8,906 birds (our third highest) of 121 species (below our average of 128), during 169 hours in the field (also a new high). Perhaps as a result of this fairly thorough coverage, we recorded 15 (!) species in new record high numbers (it ties the record). Records were set or tied for Great Blue Heron (76), Turkey Vulture (205), Canada Goose (157), Osprey (44), Bald Eagle (34), Hairy Woodpecker(16), Pileated Woodpecker (40), Blue-headed Vireo (11), American Crow (31), Fish Crow (31), White-breasted Nuthatch (12), Brown-headed Nuthatch (86), Brown Thrasher (71), Pine Warbler (311), and Northern Cardinal (356). The new highs for Osprey (44, up from 24) and Bald Eagle (34, up from 14) represent huge jumps. I did my best to ferret out our overlaps, but without better time-of-sighting information, these numbers were my best estimates. Perhaps next year I will add time-of-sighting space on the recording forms.

Woodpeckers continue to be present in large numbers. Is Hurricane Fran still providing these birds with food aplenty? The record numbers of vultures and crows might say something about our landfills or trash habits.

We did garner a few unusual species:

1 Red-breasted Merganser (Douglas and Shannon Pavlov, Shelley Theye)
1 Lesser Yellowlegs (Anson and Dwayne Cooke, Maurice and Steve Graves
Jane Lewis, Harriet Sato)
1 Semipalmated Sandpiper (Brian Bockhahn)
5 Least Sandpipers (Kyle Blankenship, Barbara Coffman, Kyle and Michael Mills)
1 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (John Frederick)
2 Grasshopper Sparrows (Catherine and Joseph Kay, Robin Moran)
8 Evening Grosbeaks (Anson and Dwayne Cooke, Maurice and Steve Graves, Jane Lewis, Harriet Sato)

So it was a good count, though not a great one. It was certainly a very pleasant day to be in the field. Thanks to all who took part. And a special thanks to those who were so prompt getting in your forms to me on time.

Mt. Jefferson, NC (MJNC): Center at 36°28'N, 81°27'W. May 12, 2001. 60° F- 72° F. Occasional light rain. Wind 5-15 mph. Partly cloudy to overcast.
Start Time: 6 AM
Stop Time: 4 PM.

Participants: John MacConnell, Beth Morrison, Vaughn Morrison.
Feeder watchers Kay Eller and daughter.

Raleigh, NC (RANC): Center the Southern Wake County Farmer's Market on Lake Wheeler Road. May 12, 2001. 60° F - 80° F. No precipitation. Wind about 5 mph. Clear to partly cloudy.
Start Time: 5 AM
Stop Time: 11:30 AM

Compiler: John Connors
1227 Mordecai Drive
Raleigh, NC 27604

Participants: John Argentati, Karen Bearden, Joe Bearden, Halbert Carmichael, John Conners, Alan Eakes, Kent Fiala, Jaap Folmer, Lena Gallitano, Lisa Gosslin, Diane Handy, Ann Hicks, Rick Van Hoy, Will Kimler, Larry Kimmel, Vernon Janke, Gail Lankford, Herman Lankford, Jim Mulholland, Monica Nees, Laura Potter, Kevin Potter, Joe Pursley, Tom Quny, Harriet Sato, Crystal Steiner, Roger Shaw, and Clyde Smith.

Compiler's Comments: Weather was perfect, birders were enthusiastic, migration was slow. Migration was actually slow here through the spring season, although a cold front arriving on May 13 provided the season's first week-long fall out a day after our official count. I noted Blackpolls, American Redstarts, Yellow Warblers, and a Magnolia Warbler in my downtown Raleigh yard on the morning of the 13th, the first I'd seen this year.

Complaints that the count is too late to record migrants are not entirely warranted. We just need help and better timing of the appropriate weather systems.

Great Blue Herons are rapidly expanding as breeding birds in our area. At Greenview Pond the colony has expanded from one nest (1999) to 2 nests (2000) to 8 nests this year with over 20 young ready to fledge. In addition single nests were found at Yates Mill Pond (along Crabtree Creek near the Buckeye Trail Greenway).

Northern Bobwhites were found at a number of sites where they have been absent for years including: Schenck Forest, near the NCSU Vet school, at Lake Benson, and along the Neuse River Greenway by Milburnie Dam.

Tree Swallows are nesting for the second season along Crabtree Creek near the Buckeye Trail. This year there are 2 nests rather than one.

Blue-headed Vireos were apparently nesting at Umstead State Park. Nashville Warbler was observed by Kendrick Weeks and Joe Pursley at Umstead State Park. Field Sparrows were not recorded during our Count for the first time ever. This is worrisome. We hope that the restoration of brushlands and meadows at Anderson Point and Greenview Pond over the next year will provide some much-needed habitat for this declining species.

Raven Rock State Park, NC (RVNC): Center at the intersection of NC 210 and SR 1434: 2.75 miles north of Lillington. April 28, 2001. 52° F - 81° F.

Wind variable 0-15 mph. Skies mostly clear in the morning and clear in the afternoon.
Start Time: 5:30 AM
Stop Time: 10:10 AM.

Compiler Paul C. Hart
Raven Rock State Park
Lillington, NC 27545

Participants: David Brown, Paul Hart, Merlin Hartley, Scott Hartly, Tom Howard, Bobby Lufty, Kevin Reese, Mitch Reese, Larry Rose, Mary Stevens, Sarah Stevens, and Erik Thomas.

Compiler's Comments: New to the count this year were an Upland Sandpiper (seen by Scott and Merlin Hartley), a Blackburnian Warbler (seen by Larry Rose and Bobby Lufty), and a pair of Northern Pintails (seen by Tom Howard). The Bald Eagle seen by Tom Howard was an immature bird. The species total of 123 was just shy of the record set in 1989 and tied in 2000. A count total of 17 Loggerhead Shrikes is encouraging news. Seen during the count period but not on count day were Swainson's Warbler and Chestnut-sided Warbler. Missed species included Great Horned Owl and House Wren.

Winston-Salem, NC (WSNC): Center at the intersection of Silas Creek Parkway and Business I-40. May 5, 2001. 57° F - 85° F. 0.1" rain. Wind 0-10 mph. Clear to partly cloudy.
Start Time: 6 AM
Stop Time: 7 PM.

Compiler: David Disher
4145 Chatham Hill Drive
Winston-Salem, NC 27104

Participants: Jones Abernathy, Charlie Allen, Libby Allen, Zack Bynum, John Carter, Lee Carter, Peg Cochrane, William Cochrane, Bill Davis, Linda Davis, Doug Deneve, Pam Deneve, David Disher, Susan Disher, Phil Dixon, Bill Gifford, Hattie Hauser, Bet Hollifield, Hop Hopkins, Royce Hough, Barbara Hendrick, Leon Hendrick, Ellen Kirkman, Jim Martin, Jay May, Tom Mowbray, Ed Mulvey, Margaret Mulvey, Virginia Perry, Paul Powers, Lloyd Ramsey, Liz Schmid, Tom Schmid, Sommer Seabastian, Jackie Shelton, David Shuford, Marilyn Shuping, Peg Slater, Ramona Snavely, Paul Spain, Bill Sugg, Jeff Turner, Gray Tuttle, and Jay Wilhelmi.

Charleston Natural History Society (CASC): Center 32°56' N, 79 42'W (near the TV antenna just off Seawell Road). May 29, 2001. 50° F - 78° F. No precipitation. Wind 0-25 mph, very gusty at times. Clear to slightly cloudy.

Start Time: 5:30 AM
Stop Time: Midnight

Compiler: Edwin Blitch III
45 Sycamore Ave., Apt. 223
Charleston, SC 29407

Participants: Bob Chinn, Calvin Clyde, Stephen Compton, Doreen Cubie, Jim Cubie, Dennis Forsythe, Donna Forsythe, Sonny Hanclel, Don Jones, Barbara Keefe, Cheves Leland, David McLean, David McLean, Jr., Burton Moore, Gerald Muckenfuss, Perry Nugent, Kenneth Priester, Allen Russell, Sue Ann Russell, Ann Shahid, Tonya Spires, Kay Woelfel, and Linda Zinnikas.

Compiler's Comments: This was one of the windiest days I've birded in a long time. In my territory (Dewer's Island) the wind actually blew from 20-75 mph all day!

Irmo, SC (IRSC): Center 34° 2.942'N, 81° 8.393'W (described in the 2000 report). April 29, 2001. 58° F - 78° F. No precipitation. Wind NW 0-5 mph. Partly cloudy.
Start Time: 6 AM
Stop Time: 8 PM

Compiler: Robin M. Carter
4165 East Buchanan Drive
Columbia, SC 29206

Participants: Donna Bailey, Molly Bonnell, Robin Carter, Andrea Ceselski, Steve Dennis, Bob Ellis, Jerry Griggs, Tom Hankins, Melanie Kalbach, Tim Kalbach, Nancy Lyman, Kathleen O'Grady, Roger Smith, Gary Sowell, Cindy Tufford, Dan Tufford, Marcia Watkins, and Robin Watkins.

Spartanburg, SC (SPSC): Center at the intersection junction of CR 539 and 590. May 12, 2001. 61° F- 82° F. No precipitation. Wind SW 8 -12 mph in the morning and N 8 - 10 mph in the afternoon. Partly cloudy.
Start Time: 6 AM
Stop Time: 11 PM

Compiler: Lyle Campbell
126 Greengate Lane
Spartanburg, SC 29307

Participants: Debbie Allman, Frankie Altman, Beth Bartel, Tim Brown, Lyle Campbell, Sarah Campbell, Teressa Coleman, Tom Moore Craig, Shane East, Glenn Englehardt, Roy Fowler, Pat Fowler, Ron Gahagan, Onoosh Gahagan, Chip Green, John Green, Alan Henderson, Marvin Jackson, Connie Jenne, Ron

Jenne, Jack Jennings, Herb Kay, Tammy King, Micky Marotte, Mary Ann Myers, Mike Miller, Angela Miller, Jim Miller, Margaret Miller, Bill Moody, Gill Newberry, Ken Pearson, Lisa Pearson, Bob Powell, Sandra Powell, Nora Moore, Terry Moore, Ingrid Norris, Doug Rayner, Richard Ridelhuber, Walton Scott, Ginny Scott, Mac Shealy, Tina Taylor, Dick Thorpe, Lois Thorpe, Brent Thomas, Gerald Thurmond, Dan Wooten, Robert Wooten, and Nancy Wooten.

Compiler's comments: The 2001 count had great yard and feeder support but fewer counters in the field. The best birds have to be the two Say's Phoebes that Tim Brown found the day after the Count. Several of our regular species were in short supply, notably Belted Kingfishers and the single Yellow-billed Cuckoo. Northern Bobwhite remain in reduced numbers. Warbler numbers were lower: Apparently most passed through before May 12.

Species	BUNC	CPNC	DUNC	GRNC	HCNC	HRNC	ICNC	JLNC	MJNC	RANC	RVNC	WSNC	CASC	IRSC	SPSC	Total
Common Loon	*	3												1		4
Pied-billed Grebe	1											1			1	2
Horned Grebe													3			3
Northern Gannet													2			2
Brown Pelican													126			126
Dbl.-cr. Cormorant	2	78	639	132	2			395			6	9	154	8	3	1426
Anhinga													9	4		13
Least Bittern			1													1
Great Blue Heron		138	105	9	6		6	76	3	58	7	5	38	6	17	474
Great Egret		3	1		2					1			162			169
Snowy Egret													92			92
Little Blue Heron													19			19
Tricolored Heron													24			24
Cattle Egret											1		19			20
Green Heron	1	6	7	3	3		3	18		6	8	4	24		6	88
Black-cr. Night-Heron													40			40
Yellow-cr. Night-Heron												4				4
White Ibis													31			31
Glossy Ibis													42			42
Wood Stork													1			1
Black Vulture		53	59	4	13	1	5	32		2	1		45	8	1	224
Turkey Vulture	27	122	36	47	35	25	39	205	5	15	41	51	161	13	25	820
Canada Goose	44	353	155	454	75		62	157		451	98	431	16	21	149	2422
Brant								40								40
Mute Swan										1						1
Wood Duck	5	58	27	13	19		6		2	6	16	19	15	2	13	196
Am. Black Duck			1	1												2
Mallard	30	74	37	175	76		9	56		87	16	60	15	2	57	664
Mottled Duck													11			11

Species	BUNC	CPNC	DUNC	GRNC	HCNC	HRNC	ICNC	JLNC	MJNC	RANC	RVNC	WSNC	CASC	IRSC	SPSC	Total
Blue-winged Teal													2			2
Northern Pintail											2					2
Lesser Scaup													2			2
Black Scoter													4			4
Hooded Merganser			1													1
Red-br. Merganser				2				1					9			12
Ruddy Duck										1						1
Osprey	1	8	13	4			2	44		*	1		31			103
Swallow-td Kite													1			1
Mississippi Kite													6			6
Bald Eagle		21		1				34		2	1		2	1		62
Northern Harrier							1									1
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	2		2	1		2	1		2	1	1	1		2	15
Cooper's Hawk		3	5	6	1		2				1	4		1	3	26
Acciper sp.		1		2				1			1					5
Red-shoulder Hawk	4	31	7	8	2	2	4	29		11	8	12	4	1	5	124
Broad-winged Hawk		42	1	1			2	8		2	1	1	1	1	*	60
Red-tailed Hawk	3		17	27	4		17	41		11	26	9	9	5	10	176
Buteo Sp.								1								1
Amerian Kestrel	1		2	1	4					2	2	1	2	1		15
Merlin							1									1
Wild Turkey	13	3	6	1	1	1	4	2	2		3		5	1	17	46
Northern Bobwhite	4	8	5	1	4		11	13		8	24	1	4		9	88
Clapper Rail													13			13
Virginia Rail										1						1
Sora										1						1
Common Moorhen													12			12
American Coot				10								1	16	1		28
Black-bld. Plover													464			464

Species	BUNC	CPNC	DUNC	GRNC	HCNC	HRNC	ICNC	JLNC	MJNC	RANC	RVNC	WSNC	CASC	IRSC	SPSC	Total
Semipalmated Plover													245			245
Killdeer	4	42	10	26	14		8	28	2	16	52	27	22	18	10	275
Am. Oystercatcher													38			38
Black-necked Stilt													5			5
Greater Yellowlegs					1						2		87			90
Lesser Yellowlegs	2	4		1	1			1			2		28	5		42
Solitary Sandpiper	1	18	12	5	13		10	9		15	16	27	4	3	3	135
Willet													80			80
Spotted Sandpiper	12	11	9	15	6		2	30	1	24	10	30	15	2	3	158
Upland Sandpiper											1					1
Whimbrel													95			95
Ruddy Turnstone													22			22
Red Knot													2300			2300
Sanderling													40			40
Semip. Sandpiper					1			1					86		1	89
Western Sandpiper													32			32
Least Sandpiper			2		13			5	1	12	25	10	8			76
Dunlin													1021			1021
Sh.-billed Dowitcher													203			203
L.-billed Dowitcher													3			3
Common Snipe			1	1							1					3
American Woodcock										2	4					6
Laughing Gull													616			616
Bonaparte's Gull													4			4
Ring-billed Gull		1	7	452	1			40		2		4	25	142	*	674
Herring Gull													60			60
Larus sp.														1		1
Gull-billed Tern													70			70
Caspian Tern		1				1							2			4

Species	BUNC	CPNC	DUNC	GRNC	HCNC	HRNC	ICNC	JLNC	MJNC	RANC	RVNC	WSNC	CASC	IRSC	SPSC	Total
Royal Tern													95			95
Sandwich Tern													19			19
Common Tern													45			45
Forster's Tern													90			90
Least Tern													22			22
Black Skimmer													324			324
Rock Dove	23	43	35	76	15		32	38	12	280	20	16	7	11	25	610
Eur. Collared-Dove														1		1
Mourning Dove	144	349	81	122	74	5	126	233	57	182	150	170	113	76	114	1852
Common Ground-Dove													5			5
Black-billed Cuckoo														2		2
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	2	8	1	1		3	1	31		4		1	10	2	4	66
Common Barn-Owl					1										1	2
East. Screech-Owl	1			1				2			3	5	2		*	13
Gt. Horned Owl		1	1				2	2				4	1		3	14
Barred Owl	1	4	8	2			2	11		10	4	4	3	2	1	51
Common Nighthawk	*									1		1	2		3	7
Chuck-will's-widow							1	8		5	4	8	72		13	111
Whip-poor-will		9	2		*		3	26		1	12				12	65
Chimney Swift	58	166	51	106	42	8	34	117	11	91	122	192	36	31	84	1091
Ruby-thr. Hummer.	4	32	18	8	2	1	10	20	10	17	9	9		3	15	154
Belted Kingfisher	3	7	7	12	1		4	4		12	5	11	1	4	*	68
Red-head. Woodpecker		25	12	4		4	3	12		12	3		32	1	1	109
Red-bel. Woodpecker	21	171	38	84	12		34	134	8	88	52	89	33	14	28	785
Yellow-bel. Sapsucker	1	1						1				1	1		1	5
Downy Woodpecker	8	56	13	26	7		8	51	11	35	11	22	3	2	16	261
Hairy Woodpecker	4	18	7	6	2	1	4	16	2	11	1	8	1		1	78
Red-ckd Woodpecker													26			26
Northern Flicker	13	31	9	24	23	8	5	33	6	20	11	46	1	2	6	225

Species	BUNC	CPNC	DUNC	GRNC	HCNC	HRNC	ICNC	JLNC	MJNC	RANC	RVNC	WSNC	CASC	IRSC	SPSC	Total
Pileated Woodpecker	14	21	2	2	6	5	3	40	1	5	8	7	24	3	9	136
Eastern Wood-Pewee	24	24	2	2	1	1	3	58	4	9	8	8	5		9	134
Acadian Flycatcher	8	47	19	4	1	2	2	21	2	43	11	3	4	1	9	169
Willow Flycatcher					19	1			13							33
Least Flycatcher									2							2
Eastern Phoebe	29	42	9	15	13	5	32	47	8	11	23	28		5	25	263
Gt. Crested Flycatcher	6	68	30	21	5	15	9	88		65	56	22	421	11	7	818
Eastern Kingbird	5	60	16	13		1	51	96	10	32	49	46	26	9	24	433
Loggerhead Shrike										2	17		3	1		23
White-eyed Vireo	4	20	21	9	17		2	43	3	9	19	9	139	8	5	304
Yellow-thr. Vireo	13	20	17	1	2	1		28	2	2	8	*	2	2	2	87
Blue-headed Vireo	46	7	4	2	5	11	2	11	1	1	2	8	4			58
Red-eyed Vireo	144	338	124	115	23	45	28	367	26	82	75	60	51	11	24	1369
Blue Jay	62	167	53	137	48	9	62	142	17	93	71	141	84	36	80	1140
American Crow	219	436	76	212	121	17	100	369	53	107	141	134	103	28	102	1999
Fish Crow		29	13	16				31		29	15	1	72	10		216
Common Raven	5				2	1			2			2				7
Crow sp.											5			9		14
Horned Lark							2									2
Purple Martin	7	34	16	128			83	40		28	27	53	36	2	63	510
Tree Swallow	15	30	13	20	5			25	4	3	9		546		5	660
N. Rough-w. Swallow	23	50	9	38	21		10	26	7	13	57	15	7	16	5	274
Bank Swallow			2					1					35			38
Cliff Swallow		26	36					191			1	2				256
Barn Swallow	88	138	91	68	71	3	117	178	44	133	127	67	140	37	19	1233
Carolina Chickadee	88	366	87	106	50	23	46	252	21	100	59	67	67	27	46	1317
Tufted Titmouse	74	379	86	120	47	25	44	304	22	112	67	113	82	21	67	1489
Red-br. Nuthatch	9															0
White-br. Nuthatch	11	60	14	20	4	3	4	12	8	16	4	21			13	179

Species	BUNC	CPNC	DUNC	GRNC	HCNC	HRNC	ICNC	JLNC	MJNC	RANC	RVNC	WSNC	CASC	IRSC	SPSC	Total
Brown-he. Nuthatch	2	61	16	21			3	86		23	17	19	76	3	19	344
Brown Creeper	5											1				1
Carolina Wren	56	445	65	146	57	15	46	212	8	151	100	125	63	33	37	1503
House Wren	18	25	15	9	11	1	9	2	11	19		17	1	1	15	136
Sedge Wren													1			1
Marsh Wren			1		1								4			6
Ruby-cr. Kinglet		2	10	12							17			4		45
B-g. Gnatchatcher	14	280	161	48	9	5	26	235	6	80	88	32	87	17	17	1091
Eastern Bluebird	70	291	72	85	43	1	128	201	13	62	130	66	20	5	84	1201
Veery	16			3			2					*				5
Gray-cheek Thrush		2		1								1				4
Swainson's Thrush	*			2		2		4		1		8		1		18
Hermit Thrush			3	2								*			1	6
Wood Thrush	30	136	33	71	11	5	22	84	3	27	35	84	2	2	11	526
American Robin	202	371	94	404	131	1	281	81	60	284	139	440	3	33	136	2458
Gray Catbird	32	93	52	43	31	6	7	16	23	37	24	67	4	14	17	434
No. Mockingbird	68	195	37	147	51		133	105	3	55	141	93	99	44	71	1224
Brown Thrasher	15	83	23	23	28	3	26	71	3	33	72	73	23	9	39	509
European Starling	146	397	133	502	140		165	116	55	182	241	247	72	5	56	2311
American Pipit												1				1
Cedar Waxwing	39	299	91	222	80	1	172	118	15	45	53	498	65	28	24	1711
Blue-winged Warbler			1	2										1		4
Tennessee Warbler												1				1
Nashville Warbler				*						1						1
Northern Parula	13	94	32	24	3	2	5	91		25	44	29	92	5	8	454
Yellow Warbler	20.	2	8	7	3	1		7	15	2	3	6				54
Chestnut-sided Warb.	31			1	7			1	12	1	*	1			*	23
Magnolia Warbler	*	1				3		8		1		1			1	15
Cape May Warbler	1			2			1					6	1			10

Species	BUNC	CPNC	DUNC	GRNC	HCNC	HRNC	ICNC	JLNC	MJNC	RANC	RVNC	WSNC	CASC	IRSC	SPSC	Total
Blk.-thr. Blue Warb	46	24	5	16	1	11	3	10		7	14	42	1	8	*	142
Yellow-rmpd Warb	5	24	301			5	10	7		1	248	86	27	36	2	747
Blk-thd Green Warb	49	1	1	21		16		1			1	1				42
Blackburian Warb	25	2		1	1	3					1					8
Yellow-thr. Warbler	5	13	29	269		1	2	69		9	33		15	2	7	449
Pine Warbler	3	216	55	43	1	25	7	311		44	41	16	69	12	21	861
Prairie Warbler	1	30	21	8		1	5	92		2	38	3	83	5	3	291
Palm Warbler			5	*		1		1			1	1		1		10
Bay-breasted Warbler												1				1
Blackpoll Warbler	2				7			2			2				*	11
Cerulean Warbler	23			1												1
Blk. -&-white Warb	71	22	8	6	2	17	4	14		3	25	2	2	3	*	108
American Redstart	31	36	7	6	3	3	3	27	4	11	22	3		3	3	131
Prothonotary Warbler		37	18					13		6	32	5	33	2		146
Worm-eating Warbler	14	1		6		6		1				1				15
Swainson's Warbler											*		1	1		2
Ovenbird	82	116	28	12		16	3	139	2	21	30	14	1	4	1	387
Northern Waterthrush		4	3	4	6	1	1	1				4		2		26
Louisiana Waterthrush		13	2	3		1		13		6	8			4	3	53
Kentucky 'Warbler	3	5		2		3		1		2	5		15	2	1	36
Common Yellowthroat	3	142	93	27	37		18	75	5	34	37	29	109	5	8	619
Hooded Warbler	75	58		4	4	25		24	7	6	36	2	56	2	1	225
Canada Warbler	29				1				1							2
Yellow-br. Chat	3	56	33	13	9		17	65		10	25	12	42	5	3	290
Summer Tanager		130	20	9				136		31	31	1	52	17	18	445
Scarlet Tanager	56	46	14	12	25	11	14	81	5	6	11	28	1	3	3	260
Eastern Towhee	86	242	72	82	107	17	20	149	25	88	42	105	133	11	47	1140
Bachman's Sparrow													3			3
Chipping Sparrow	22	196	39	35	4	4	41	136	25	27	96	30	1	4	33	671

Species	BUNC	CPNC	DUNC	GRNC	HCNC	HRNC	ICNC	JLNC	MJNC	RANC	RVNC	WSNC	CASC	IRSC	SPSC	Total
Field Sparrow	10	18	25	20	26	1	32	17	6		33	9			9	196
Savannah Sparrow	1	3	9	5	12			3			27	5	6			70
Grasshopper Sparrow		6	2	4	6		30	2		3	7	4			2	66
Seaside Sparrow													1			1
Song Sparrow	164	21	14	83	122	1	19	3	64	3	5	57	1		13	406
Lincoln's Sparrow					1											1
Swamp Sparrow		6	7								5			1		19
White-thr. Sparrow		7	127	76	3		1				41	2	1	3	4	265
White-cr. Sparrow			15		*				2			*				17
Dark-eyed Junco	42					1			5							6
Northern Cardinal	117	776	140	282	86	20	139	356	29	237	134	337	240	57	70	2903
Rose-br. Grosbeak	12	57	1	3				3	8	1	2	12		1		88
Blue Grosbeak		267	12	4	6		32	88		14	24	2	14	9	5	477
Indigo Bunting	168		65	22	80	8	54	266	41	54	30	102	31	25	34	812
Painted Bunting													65	3		68
Bobolink		37	3	2	35		131	12	2	*	54		6	2		284
Red-wing. Blackbird	78	169	106	73	77		58	88	62	56	80	97	237	4	43	1150
Eastern Meadowlark	13	16	9	18	30		114	50	3	18	53	8			23	342
Rusty Blackbird											3					3
Common Grackle	61	466	166	491	88		227	327	71	292		410	127	57	132	2854
Boat-tailed Grackle			63								247		294			604
Br.-headed Cowbird	14	150		47	14	3	24	140	15	61	48	69	59	18	32	680
Orchard Oriole	6	21	32	11	3		5	44		21	26	9	62	11		245
Baltimore Oriole	4	4	1	5					8			13		3		34
Blackbird Sp.								10								10
Purple Finch							14								4	18
House Finch	50	250	24	65	22		26	62	31	96	67	83	3	49	67	845
American Goldfinch	98	385	121	250	61	1	86	220	69	195	54	382		3	56	1883
House Sparrow	24	111	44	32	3		44	32	2	23	51	23	14	23	23	425

Species	BUNC	CPNC	DUNC	GRNC	HCNC	HRNC	ICNC	JLNC	MJNC	RANC	RVNC	WSNC	CASC	IRSC	SPSC	Total
No. of Species	107	119	120	123	100	68	99	123	72	111	123	118	160	107	99	232
No. of Individuals	3607	11328	4776	6775	2427	476	3275	8906	1102	4820	4518	5932	11961	1242	2384	69972
Total Field Hours	58	184.8	58	94	34.5	24.25	38	169	19	62.25	55	100.75	84.75	28	58.5	1068.8
Hours on foot	21	140.85	55	62.75	21.5	24.25	13	130.5	11.5	53	33.25	87.75	32	19	40.5	62758.1
Hours by car	37	36.2	3	31.25	13	0	25	23	7.5	9.25	21.75	13	43.75	9	18	253.7
Hours by bike	0	2.75	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4.75
Hours by boat	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	13.5	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	19.5
Hours by golf cart	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	8
Hours Owling	0	2	1.75	0	0	0	0	3.5	0	1.5	1	20.75	2	0	6.25	38.75
Total Field miles	309	328.7	87.5	397	136	16.8	204.5	309.1	136.5	138.5	369.5	181.3	381.6	128	318	3133
Miles on foot	13	93.5	44.5	44	16	16.8	12.5	86.3	6.5	46.5	19.5	45	31	11	21	494.1
Miles by car	296	226.7	43	353	120	0	192	209.5	130	92	350	136.3	324.6	17	287	2481.1
Miles by boat	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	12.5	0	0	22.5
MIles by bicycle	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	9.3	0	0	0			0	0	15.3
Miles by golf cart	0	2.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	0	0	16.5
Miles Owling	0	4.5	0	0	0	0	0	17	0	1.5	9	2	19	0	21	74
Date	5/12	5/6	4/29	4/28	5/12	5/12	5/6	5/12	5/12	5/12	4/28	5/5	4/29	4/28	5/12	

Will Cook
North Carolina Editor
PO Box 3066
Durham, NC 27715
cwcook@acpub.duke.edu

Dennis M. Forsythe
South Carolina Editor
Department of Biology
The Citadel
Charleston, SC 29409
forsythed@citadel.edu
(843) 953-7264
Fax: (803) 953-7084

First Breeding Records for Tree Swallows in South Carolina

Steve Wagner
Division of Biological and Physical Sciences
Lander University
Greenwood, SC 29649

Scott Stegenga
Table Rock State Park
158 E. Elison Lane
Pickens, SC 29671

Bill Hilton, Jr.
Hilton Pond Center for Piedmont Natural History
1432 DeVinney Road
York, SC 29745

At the southeastern limits of their breeding range Tree Swallows (*Tachycineta bicolor*) nest sporadically in northeastern Louisiana, northeastern Mississippi, northern Alabama, northern Georgia, and western North Carolina (American Ornithologists' Union 1998). The first Tree Swallows nested in Georgia from 1982-1984 at Lake Chatuge in Towns County (Haney *et al.* 1986). The swallow has nested in Towns, Murray, and Floyd Counties in north Georgia and in Clayton, Greene, Monroe, and McDuffie Counties in the piedmont. Nesting has been continuous in those counties except for McDuffie and Monroe (Beaton pers. comm.). The first North Carolina nesting record was from Ashe County in 1979 (LeGrand and Potter 1980). Since then, nesting has occurred in other counties in the mountains of western North Carolina, including Buncombe, Transylvania, Henderson, Macon, and Alleghany (Lee 1993). There are also two nesting records from the piedmont of North Carolina, one from Jordan Lake in Chatham County in 1988, and the other from Vance County in 1990 (Lee 1993). In the North Carolina coastal plain, nesting has been reported in Currituck, Northampton, and Brunswick Counties (Lee 1993; Cooper and Markham 1994).

Throughout South Carolina, Tree Swallows are common spring and fall migrants, while on the coastal plain, they are fairly common winter residents (Post and Gauthreaux 1989). As of 2000, there were no confirmed breeding records for South Carolina. This note reviews 3 earlier reports of possible nesting in South Carolina and provides documentation for three nests found in 2001, one at Table Rock State Park in Pickens County and two in Oconee County. Another nesting record from Table Rock State Park in 2002 is also described.

Observations made during 1996-1998 suggest that Tree Swallows bred in South Carolina before 2001. In 1996, 1997 and 1998, Tree Swallows may have nested on Lake Russell in Abbeville County. During May of each year, Don Cox (pers. comm.) observed an adult male and female visiting cavities in dead snags that stood in a cove of the lake. Unfortunately, Cox made no further observations in 1996 and 1997. On 19 May 1998, Irvin Pitts (pers. comm.) saw a pair of Tree Swallows visiting a cavity about 2 m above the water in a slender, dead tree stub. The female entered the cavity several times from 09:25 to 14:45. Although the bird's behavior indicated nesting activity, Pitts was unable to confirm breeding.

On 13 May 2000, Wagner observed similar cavity attendance behavior near the Tugaloo River in Oconee County. During a 15 min. observation period, he watched a pair of adult Tree Swallows repeatedly visit a cavity in a dead tree in a beaver pond. The tree was about 4 m tall, and the cavity was about 3 m above the water. The female entered the cavity and remained inside for about 5 min., while the male perched on a nearby branch. Wagner was unable to confirm nesting.

At Table Rock State Park, Tree Swallows are seen during spring migration, from early April to mid-May, and on 10 June 2000, a single adult was sighted at the park. On 13 April 2001, Stegenga watched a male Tree Swallow inspecting a bluebird box near the entrance to the park office. The box entrance hole is 2 m above the ground. The surrounding habitat is open lawn.

On 18 April 2001, two to three swallows landed on the nest box closest to the building. On 22 April, Stegenga saw nest building at this box. By 2 May, the nest building was completed, although no eggs were present. Long pieces of grasses made up the bulk of the nest, and several feathers were added as well. During this period and into May, the swallows occasionally inspected two other boxes near the parking lot. They appeared to have added some nest material to one of the boxes. A Brown-headed Nuthatch (*Sitta pusilla*) attempted to nest in one of the boxes but abandoned the nest after laying four eggs.

On 4 May, three eggs were found in the Tree Swallow nest. By 12 May, six eggs had been laid. In the next few days a predator may have disturbed the nest, and some of the eggs had sunk into the nest cup. A nearby bluebird nest box was depredated during this same time period. A second Tree Swallow clutch may have been started on top of the first, as seven eggs were counted on the 26th. Stegenga added a predator baffle below the box on 26 May. On the 29th at least nine eggs were counted. Stegenga did not inspect the nest as several eggs had settled into the nesting material. He could not determine if these nine eggs were

a set that was laid during the same period or if it included some of the buried eggs.

On 14 June, five nestlings were found. The adults mobbed humans walking nearby. On 25 June the five nestlings were banded by Bill Hilton (Hilton 2001). By 07:30 on 27 June, the young had fledged. Ants and mites infested the nest material. No birds roosted in the box that night. We salvaged the nest on 28 June. It is now in the Vertebrate Collections at Clemson University (Acc. #986). At 08:45 on 28 June, the fledglings were sighted high in an oak perched on some exposed branches. The oak was between the lake and parking area. The adults appeared to be feeding the young. At 20:00 five fledglings were seen in the same tree

On 7 May 2001, Larry LeCroy found Tree Swallows using two boxes on the 8th and 9th fairways of Falcon's Lair Golf Course in Salem, Oconee County, SC. The nest on the 8th fairway appeared to be complete on 8 May and on 16 May contained at least four eggs. On 26 May, Wagner found that the nest contained five eggs and photographed them. On 9 June the nest was empty, apparently as a result of predation.

The nest on the 9th fairway also appeared to be complete on 8 May and on 14 May contained four eggs. On 26 May at 08:09 Wagner examined the box again and photographed a nest containing 4 nestlings. On 9 June the nest contained four nestlings that were almost fully feathered. The fate of these nestlings is unknown. Wagner salvaged the swallow nest from the 9th fairway on 28 June. The nest and photographs were placed in the Vertebrate Collections at Clemson University (Acc. #986).

Tree Swallows again nested at Table Rock State Park in 2002. On 19 April, Stegenga observed Tree Swallows entering a box to the north of the visitor center building. On 1 May a nest and two eggs were present. Five eggs were present on 7 May. The box was disturbed later in the day on 7 May, and all five eggs were broken. Swallows were seen going in the box on 10 May, but the birds did not attempt to nest in that box again.

The pair then built a nest in the same box that Tree Swallows had used in 2001. Nest building began after Eastern Bluebirds (*Sialia sialis*) completed fledging from the box on 14 May. The swallows had their nest built by 17 May. Three eggs were present on 23 May and five eggs were present on 25 May. The nest contained five nestlings on 11 June. Four swallows had fledged either on the 24th or on the morning of 25 June. The last fledgling was out of the box before 16:00 on the 25th. At least three of the fledglings were seen perched in small persimmon trees between the visitor center and the lake at about 17:30 on 25 June. Adults were also seen. Juvenile Northern Rough-winged Swallows (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) were also perched in the same trees. No Tree Swallows were seen on 26 June, but the Northern Rough-winged Swallows were in the persimmon trees again.

These breeding records from South Carolina represent a continuation of the breeding range expansion described by Lee (1993). The locations of these first nesting records are expected, as first nesting records for Georgia and North Carolina also were from mountain counties. Transylvania and Henderson

Counties in North Carolina, where swallows first nested in 1988 and 1989 (Lee 1993) adjoin Pickens and Oconee Counties in South Carolina. Given the number of records from Georgia and North Carolina in the past decade, it is surprising that nesting was not confirmed in South Carolina before 2001. If Tree Swallows follow the same pattern of nesting range expansion in South Carolina that has occurred in Georgia and North Carolina, we should expect additional nesting records from Oconee, Pickens and northern Greenville Counties in the coming years.

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Ricky Davis
608 Smallwood Drive
Rocky Mount, NC 27804
RJDNC@aol.com

All Dates Summer 2002

Briefs for the Files is a seasonal collection of uncommon-to-rare or unusual North and South Carolina bird sightings and events which do not necessarily require a more detailed Field Note or article. Reports of your sightings are due the 20th of the month after the end of the previous season.

Winter = December 1 - February 28, due March 20
Spring = March 1 - May 31, due June 20
Summer = June 1 - July 31, due August 20
Fall = August 1 - November 30, due December 20

Reports can be submitted in any format, but I prefer that you type them and list the sightings according to the birds in checklist order (not according to dates or locations). If you submit your report to me through e-mail, please type your report directly into the message or copy it from a word processing program directly into the message. You may also attach your file to the e-mail, but if you do, please let me know the program used and also send a second version saved as a text (txt.) file.

Suitable reports for the Briefs include any sightings you feel are unusual, rare, noteworthy, or just plain interesting to you in any way! It is my responsibility to decide which reports merit inclusion in the Briefs.

Please be sure to include details of any rare or hard-to-identify birds.

I rely in part on sightings reported in Carolinabirds. Please don't, however, rely on me to pick up your sightings from Carolinabirds. Instead, please also send your sightings directly to me as described above.

If I feel that your sighting warrants a Field Note, I will contact either you or the appropriate state Field Notes editor. You may, of course, submit your Field Note directly to the editor without going through me.

COMMON LOON: Rare summer sightings included one at C. Lookout, NC, June 1 (Russ & Patricia Tyndall), one off the Huntington Beach State Park, SC jetty June 7 (Stephen Thomas), one off the beach at Kitty Hawk, NC, in early July (Sam Corbo), and one at Oregon Inlet, NC, July 4 (Russ & Patricia Tyndall).

HERALD PETREL: Only one was found this summer, that being off Hatteras, NC, June 2 (Brian Patteson *et al.*).
GREATER SHEARWATER: A good count of 217 Greaters was had off of Hatteras, NC, June 9 (Brian Patteson *et al.*).
MANX SHEARWATER: This rare but regular migrant was found off Hatteras, NC, with two birds on June 1 & 9 (Patteson *et al.*).
WHITE-TAILED TROPICBIRD: This species was found multiple times off Hatteras this summer. One was found on the June 2 pelagic trip (Patteson *et al.*), and single birds were found on five fishing trips spanning the period June 5 - July 9 (Patteson).
RED-BILLED TROPICBIRD: The very rare Red-billed Tropicbird was found twice off Hatteras, with an immature June 29 and an adult July 13, as noted by Brian Patteson.
MASKED BOOBY: One off Hatteras, NC, June 9 (Patteson *et al.*) provided one of the few reports of this species from that state the last several years.
BROWN BOOBY: An immature Brown Booby was picked up on the beach at Emerald Isle, NC, July 30 (*fide* John Fussell). The bird was taken to a local wildlife shelter where it died the next day. This bird provided the first specimen record of this very rare species for North Carolina.
AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN: A good count of 60+ at Bear Is., Colleton County, SC, June 29 (Robin Carter and Caroline Eastman) proved that this species continues in that area in good numbers.
MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD: This summer's reports of this yearly visitor included one over Winyah Bay, Georgetown County, SC, June 27 (*fide* Jack Peachey), one at south Litchfield Beach, SC, July 3 (Bob Maxwell), and one over the breakers at Pea Is. N.W.R., NC, July 3 (Rich and Susan Boyd, Bob Holmes, Wade Fuller).
LITTLE BLUE HERON: An immature was a locally unusual find at Hendersonville, NC, July 29 (Wayne Forsythe).
REDDISH EGRET: This species was found in both states again this summer. In South Carolina the best count was an impressive 8 birds at Bulls Is., Charleston County July 22 (Perry Nugent). Also up to three were in the Murrell's Inlet area July 4 (Ritch Lilly). In North Carolina the best count was of 6 on the Portsmouth Is. Flats July 21 (Wayne Irvin, Jeff Lewis and Joan Kutulas, Brad and Pat Carlson). Also up to three were in the Shackleford Banks, Carteret County area July 27 (John Fussell, Jack Fennell, Rich and Susan Boyd). And one found at Wrightsville Beach, NC, in late July (*fide* Taylor Piephoff) was locally unusual.
WHITE IBIS: The best inland count received was of 28 at the New Hope Creek arm of Jordan Lake, NC, June 15 (Cynthia Fox *et al.*). And a group of three at the Four Seasons Marsh, Henderson County, NC, June 29 (Wayne Forsythe and Marilyn Westphal) provided a good report for that western locality.
WOOD STORK: This is one of the rarer inland wandering waders in North Carolina. Thus of note were one near Norfleet, Halifax County July 14 (Ricky

Davis) and two at the New Hope Creek arm of Jordan Lake July 21 (Davis). At least one of the latter birds remained until at least July 28 (Rick Payne *et al.*).

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK: Reports of this species continue from coastal South Carolina. One was at Magnolia Gardens, Charleston June 5 (Jim Edwards and Jane Chew), and a flock of 22 was at a pond near McClellanville June 5 (*fide* Dennis Forsythe). One wonders about the "wildness" of these birds, but the latter report really makes a case for naturally-occurring birds, as most escapes are of small groups or individuals.

TUNDRA SWAN: One, apparently injured, spent the summer at North Pond, Pea Is. N.W.R., NC, as noted by many observers.

NORTHERN SHOVELER: One was unusual and very late at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper County, SC, June 23 (Steve Calver).

RING-NECKED DUCK: Three males were a surprise at Jordan Lake, NC, June 23, as noted by Ricky Davis. Individuals of this species are somewhat regular nonbreeding lingerers, but the presence of three together was quite unusual.

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER: A lingering female at Oregon Inlet, NC, July 4 was somewhat unusual for the summer (Russ and Patricia Tyndall).

RUDDY DUCK: One at University Place, Charlotte, NC, June 22 was unexpected in summer (Marek Smith). At a known summering site, the Jacksonville W.T.P. near Richlands, NC, an impressive count of 58+ was had July 1 (Nell Moore, Jim and Laura O'Donnell).

OSPREY: One, very unusual in summer, was present along the river at Brevard, NC, the entire period (Norma Siebenheller, sev. obs.).

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE: Two were excellent finds in upstate South Carolina near Pendleton, Anderson County July 27 (Steve Patterson). Also an impressive group of 30+ was observed on the Savannah River Site near Allendale, SC, in late July (Anne Waters).

MISSISSIPPI KITE: There were no new nesting areas reported in North Carolina this summer, but the known locations at Roanoke Rapids and Newport continued to have breeding birds (Frank Enders, Rich and Susan Boyd).

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK: Always noteworthy during the summer in the Carolinas, a Sharp-shinned was a good find at Chapel Hill, NC, June 23, as noted by Helmut Mueller.

BROAD-WINGED HAWK: A juvenile Broad-winged was observed near Mill Creek, Carteret County, NC, July 27-31 (Jack Fennell, *fide* John Fussell). Broad-wingeds are very rare near the coast as a breeder, and this juvenile would seem to point to local breeding.

AMERICAN KESTREL: Breeding season reports of Kestrels are always noteworthy. This summer's reports included a pair fledging two young in Roanoke Rapids, NC (Frank Enders), a single near Ocracoke, NC, June 3 (Nick Pantelidis), and one at Leggett, Edgecombe County, NC, June 30 (Russ and Patricia Tyndall).

BLACK RAIL: This species is rarely observed, and usually a brief glimpse of a bird running through the grass is the most one can expect to get. Thus truly

amazing was the seven, including four adults and three young, seen in the open at North River marsh, Carteret County, NC, June 29 (Brad Carlson).

BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER: Only one inland Black-bellied was reported, that being at Falls Lake, NC, July 28 (Ricky Davis).

WILSON'S PLOVER: An excellent count of 50 Wilson's was had at the east end of Shackleford Banks, Carteret County, NC, July 27 (John Fussell *et al.*).

PIPING PLOVER: The best counts of this species this summer were 20 on Shackleford Banks, NC, July 27 (Fussell *et al.*), 25 at Portsmouth Is., NC, July 21 (Wayne Irvin, Jeff Lewis, Brad Carlson), and 38 on the Ocracoke, NC, flats July 22 (Irvin, Lewis).

AMERICAN AVOCET: Two at the New Hope Creek arm of Jordan Lake, NC, July 22 were good finds for that inland site (Mike Skakuj).

UPLAND SANDPIPER: Three were a little early at the Orangeburg, SC, sod farm July 6 (Tim Kalbach), but one at Mayesville, SC, June 23 was extremely early (Evelyn Dabbs).

WHIMBREL: One was a surprise, and very rare inland, at the Orangeburg, SC, sod farm July 27, as noted by Steve Compton.

LONG-BILLED CURLEW: Two were present on Shackleford Banks, NC, for most of July (Nell Moore, Jim and Laura O'Donnell, John Fussell, Jack Fennell, Rich and Susan Boyd). This area has become the most reliable location for Long-billeds in North Carolina the last several years.

MARBLED GODWIT: One was rather early at Huntington Beach State Park, SC, June 26, as noted by Jack Peachey.

RED KNOT: An excellent count for the summer was the 110+ at South Pond, Pea Is. N.W.R., NC, July 3 (Ricky Davis).

SANDERLING: Inland Sanderlings reported involved singles at Falls Lake, NC, July 21 (Ricky Davis) and Jordan Lake, NC, July 22 (Shantanu Phukan and Allan Johnston).

WESTERN SANDPIPER: The best total of this peep inland was the 12 at the New Hope Creek arm of Jordan Lake, NC, July 22 (Mike Skakuj).

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER: Four were quite late at the Savannah Spoil Site, Jasper County, SC, June 18 (Steve Calver).

CURLEW SANDPIPER: This rare but regular visitor was reported twice, both from Pea Is., N.W.R., NC. An alternate plumaged bird was at South Pond July 3 (Ricky Davis), and another was on North Pond July 20 (Jeff Lewis, Russ and Patricia Tyndall).

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www.carolinabirdclub.org/thechat.html

AMERICAN WOODCOCK: Rare summer sightings included one being flushed at the NC Arboretum, Buncombe County, NC, June 24 (John Lindfors), one flushed near Honey Hill, Francis Marion Nat. For., SC, July 15 (Perry Nugent *et al.*), and one seen in a yard in Asheville, NC, July 21 (Simon Thompson).

WILSON'S PHALAROPE: The only summer report received was of one at the Savannah Spoil Site, SC, July 10 (Steve Calver).

HERRING GULL: A dirty, oiled immature Herring was unusual in that it spent the summer inland at Jordan Lake, NC (Ricky Davis).

GULL-BILLED TERN: An excellent count of 110 Gull-billeds, a locally declining species, was at the Davis Impoundment, Carteret County, NC, July 28 (John Fussell *et al.*).

CASPIAN TERN: One at the Davis Impoundment, Carteret County, NC, June 16 (John Fussell) was considered locally unusual, while one at Falls Lake, NC, July 7 (Ricky Davis) was a little early as a fall migrant.

FORSTER'S TERN: Good inland sightings from western North Carolina included four on L. Hickory July 30 (Dwayne Martin) and one on L. Julian July 31 (Wayne Forsythe).

LEAST TERN: Rooftop nesting by this species was once again observed in the Carolinas. An impressive count of up to 110 Leasts was had at a site in Myrtle Beach, SC, in mid-June (*fide* Will Cook), and 75+ were on a roof east of New Bern, NC (Wade Fuller). A rare inland wandering Least was observed at the Goldsboro, NC, W.T.P. July 3, as noted by Hal Broadfoot, Jr.

SOOTY TERN: This summer's reports included one off Hatteras, NC, June 9 (Brian Patteson *et al.*), two on the beach at C. Fear, Bald Head Is., NC, July 25 (Greg Massey), one on the Ocracoke, NC, flats July 26 (Wayne Irvin), and one off Mt. Pleasant, SC, July 26 (Mal Hodges *et al.*).

WHITE-WINGED DOVE: One was a good find at Harbor Is., SC, June 29-30 (Judy Halleron). Also one bird continues to hang on in Beafort, NC, where it was observed singing throughout the summer (Susan Boyd).

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO: One was seen in southern Craven County, NC, July 6 (Rich and Susan Boyd), in the same area where one was present in May. This species has been known to summer in pocosin habitats in eastern North Carolina before.

EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE: One observed singing at Wet Camp Gap along the Blue Ridge Parkway in Jackson County, NC, June 22 was unusual for such a high (5,000') elevation (Russ and Patricia Tyndall).

WILLOW FLYCATCHER: Two singing males near L. Don T. Howell, Cabarrus County, NC, from mid-to-late June were locally noteworthy. The first confirmed breeding at this site involved one adult with two recently fledged young in late June (*fide* Taylor Piephoff).

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER: The Monroe, NC, breeding pair fledged three young around June 24 (Anne Olsen). This was the third year in a row that the pair had successfully raised young here.

BLUE-HEADED VIREO: Two males and a female were observed at Carolina Sandhills N.W.R., Chesterfield County, SC, June 16 (Robin Carter), suggesting local breeding, a first for that area. Also 10+ singing males and one located nest were noteworthy for the Savannah River Site, SC in early June (Paul Champlin).
WARBLING VIREO: Two singing Warblings provided a locally unusual summer occurrence at Fletcher Park, Henderson, NC, June 17-21 (Ron Selvey).
FISH CROW: One at Forest City, Rutherford County, NC, June 5 was considered locally unusual and a little farther inland than normal (Simon Thompson).
HORNED LARK: This species breeds around large grassy areas and balds in the northern mountains, but actual breeding evidence is rarely reported. Thus of note was a juvenile at Rich Mt. Bald, Watauga Count, NC, June 16 (Walt Conway). At the other end of the state, where the species becomes harder to find as you near the coast, an excellent count of 150 was had at a site in Carteret County, NC, July 21 (John Fussell and Jack Fennell). This flock contained many juvenile birds, thus proving local breeding.
TREE SWALLOW: Several were noted as probably nesting at Mackay Is. N.W.R., Currituck County, NC, June 23 (Jeff Lewis and Joan Kutulas). All reports of breeding season Tree Swallows in the Carolinas are noteworthy, especially those in eastern North Carolina and all of South Carolina.
CLIFF SWALLOW: Breeding by this species was noted at New Bern, NC, this summer in the Brice's Creek area June 11 (John Fussell). Nesting Cliff Swallows are very unusual as you get away from the Piedmont lakes and rivers, and breeding near the coast is a rare event indeed.
BROWN CREEPER: Two acting territorial at Milepost 375.4 on the Blue Ridge Parkway, Buncombe County, NC, June 20 (Charlotte Goedsche) were unusual in summer for several reasons. They were at a low elevation of 3,300', and the habitat was deciduous woods, not coniferous.
HERMIT THRUSH: Breeding season reports of this species were found farther south this summer, with up to three singing individuals being noted along the Heintooga Rd., Great Smoky Mts. Nat. Park, NC, during July (Marilyn Westphal, Simon Thompson *et al.*).
CEDAR WAXWING: This species was reported rather frequently in eastern North Carolina this summer. The farthest east were two pairs at Mackay Is. N.W.R. June 23 (Jeff Lewis and Joan Kutulas) and a pair seen courting in the Croatan Nat. For. June 11 (John Fussell). Confirmed breeding, where young were observed, occurred in Zebulon and at Falls Lake during July (Ricky Davis).

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MAGNOLIA WARBLER: One was found on Black Balsam Mt., Haywood County, NC in late June (Steve Perry). This location is considerably south of the usual areas (Roan, Grandfather, Mitchell Mountains) this very local species has been found previously.

CERULEAN WARBLER: Excellent numbers of Ceruleans were counted during a roadside survey along the Blue Ridge Parkway, Buncombe County, north of Asheville, NC, in June (Charlotte Goedsche). There were up to 30 territorial males in one five mile stretch, and even more amazing was the sighting of up to eight fledglings.

WORM-EATING WARBLER: Early migrants included a female netted at York, SC, July 9 (Bill Hilton, Jr.) and one at Asheville, NC, July 12 (Simon Thompson).

MOURNING WARBLER: A territorial male, no doubt the same as last year, was back at Grassy Ridge, Roan Mt., NC, this summer. The bird was first noted in early June (*fide* Dwayne Martin) and was seen by several observers until sometime in early July. There appeared to be just the lone male this year.

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW: A juvenile was observed near Otway, Carteret County, NC, July 21 (John Fussell and Jack Fennell). This is of interest since there are no previous breeding records for the county.

WHITE-THROATED SPARROW: Rare and unusual in summer, a singing male White-throated was acting territorial at Beaver Lake, Asheville, NC, from July until August (Simon Thompson *et al.*). Most summer reports of this species involve lingering, non-breeding individuals.

BOBOLINK: This species began its southward migration a little earlier than normal this summer, as evidenced by one near Scotland Neck, NC, July 14 (Ricky Davis), a flock in Jones County, NC, July 15 (Clancy Ballenger), and one at Ferguson Fields, NC, July 19 (Josh Rose).

SHINY COWBIRD: Only one was reported this summer, that being a male at a feeder on Edisto Is., SC, July 6 (Sidney Gauthreaux).

In Memoriam

Robert J. Hader
(1919 - 2003)

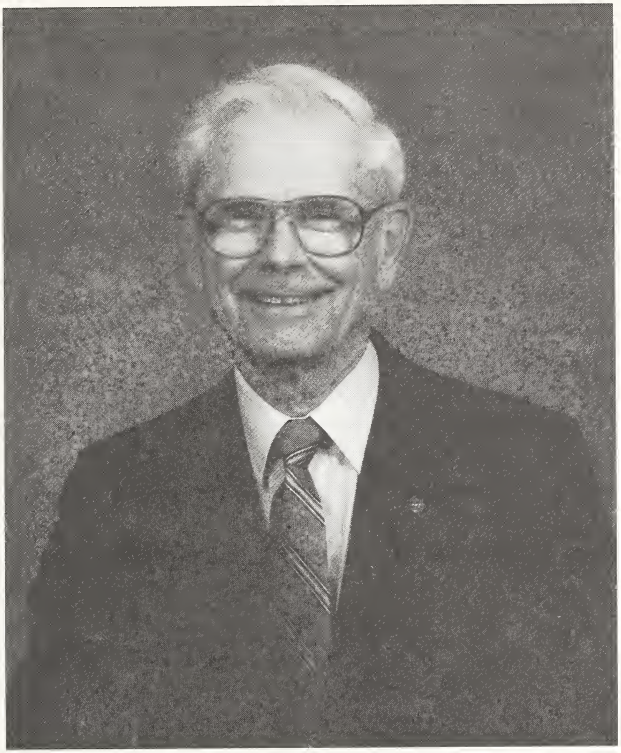
Bob Hader was a soft-spoken man with a delightful smile, a rigorously analytical mind, the soul of a gifted teacher, and a passion for bird study. During his professorship on the full-time faculty of North Carolina State University (1957-1983), serious engineering and computer science students advised one another, "Don't leave here without taking Dr. Hader's graduate course in statistics."

Bob and Dorothy Hader often attended Carolina Bird Club meetings, but their quiet, unassuming manner made it easy to overlook them in the crowd. Bob served on the executive committee of CBC and organized the memorable meeting on the North Carolina Outer Banks in the fall of 1971 (Chat 36:11-12, 1972). At the Fiftieth Anniversary meeting held at Raleigh 1-3 May 1987, a pocket-sized checklist of the birds of the Raleigh area was released by the N.C. Biological Survey in cooperation with Wake Audubon Society. The compilers were Robert J. Hader and Harry E. LeGrand Jr. (Chat 51:33, 1987). An active member of Wake Audubon, Bob headed the Raleigh area Christmas Bird Count for a number of years and participated in many other counts. "If every county had a record keeper like Bob Hader," commented David S. Lee, Curator of Birds at the N.C. State Museum of Natural Sciences, "updating the state list would be easy."

Dr. Hader was born 13 April 1919 in Hartford, Wisconsin. He attended the University of Wisconsin for three years before enlisting in the U.S. Air Force in 1942. As an Aviation Cadet he completed a program in meteorology at the University of Chicago and subsequently served 30 months as an Air Force Weather Officer in the China-Burma-India Theater, reaching the rank of Captain.

Following his discharge, Hader enrolled as a graduate student at NCSU and received a Ph.D. in statistics in 1949. For the next two years he served as a statistician at the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory in New Mexico. In 1951 he returned to NCSU as an Associate Professor and six years later was promoted to Professor. He received several Outstanding Teacher awards during his tenure. For a short time he traveled to UNC-Wilmington to teach his highly respected course in statistics there as well as in Raleigh. Those trips rewarded him with an opportunity to do a little extra birding on the Carolina coast.

Dr. Hader published a number of papers in statistical journals and was made a Fellow of the American Statistical Society in 1966. He retired from full-time teaching in 1983, but he continued to teach during the summer session for 5 years. The plans he and Dorothy had for their retirement years changed abruptly when his back was severely injured in a fall several years ago. CBC



Robert J. Hader

members who never knew him personally may recall seeing Bob in his wheelchair at some of the meetings. His enthusiasm for bird study never waned.

Hader contributed more than a dozen articles to *The Chat* between 1963 and 1987. His rarest find was a Lawrence's Warbler seen at Hemlock Bluffs, Wake County, N.C., on 29 April 1965 (Chat 29:88-89, 1965). A major paper was the "Species List of Birds of Wake County, North Carolina" (Chat 33:53-71, 1969). The list was accompanied by an article on finding birds in the Raleigh area co-authored with his fellow NCSU faculty member, Thomas L. Quay (Chat 33:72-75, 1969). In addition, Hader was always willing to help the Editor of *The Chat* by reviewing papers involving the use of statistics. As Ricky Davis well recalls, Dr. Hader also did a great deal to encourage young people's interest in bird study. His friendliness, generosity, intellectual integrity, and adherence to the highest ethical standards made him a worthy example for statisticians and bird students of all ages.

Following Bob's death on 15 January 2003, at age 83, a memorial service was held on 20 January at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Raleigh. Interment was in Hartford, Wis. Bob is survived by his wife, Dorothy; their daughter Ann Stockard, of Dallas, Texas; their son Robert J. Hader, Jr., of Cary, N.C.; six grandchildren; and a brother, James E. Hader, of Hartford, Wis.

Ornithological Publications of R. J. Hader

Hader, R J. 1963. Caspian Terns at Raleigh, North Carolina. Chat 27:79-80.

_____. 1965a. More Caspian Terns at Raleigh, N.C. Chat 29:87.

_____. 1965b. Lawrence's Warbler at Raleigh, N.C. Chat 29:88-89.

_____. 1967. Fall Shorebird Records at Raleigh, N.C. Chat 31:25-26

_____. 1968a. Wilson's Phalarope at Raleigh, N.C. Chat 32:76.

_____. 1968b. Wilson's Petrels at Cape Lookout. Chat 32:100.

_____. 1969. Species List of Birds of Wake County, North Carolina. Chat 33:53-71.

_____. 1971. Bald Eagle at Raleigh, N.C. Chat 35:108.

_____. 1975. Goshawks in Avery County, N.C. Chat 39:18-19. [Report of correspondence between Dartha Frank and William Hamnett. (E.F.P.)]

_____. 1987.Vermilion Flycatcher at Pea Island Refuge, N.C. Chat 51:77.

_____ and Tom Howard. 1977. Probable Rufous Hummingbird at Raleigh, N.C. Chat 41:70-71 [Third accepted state record. (E.F.P.)]

Marsh, Chris, and R J Hader. 1969. Red Phalarope in Wake County, N.C. Chat 38:71-72.

Quay, T L, and R J Hader. 1968. Bird Finding Around Raleigh, N.C. Chat 33:72-75.

ELOISE F. POTTER, Editor Emeritus, The Chat

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